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Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
South African Pharmaceutical Society.
Pharmaceutical Society of Natal.
Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal.
Pharmaceutical Society of Rhodesia.
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Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.
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THE C. & D. DIARY, 1904.

No further announcement regarding the advertisement section of this DIARY will appear in the C. & D.

Sheets of the advertisements are now being printed, and the last of them will close for press on October 31. Consequently orders for or instructions respecting any advertisements must be sent immediately to The Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

If you mean to do it, do it now, please.

We are working to ship the Australian copies of the DIARY by certain mail steamers early in November, and British mail steamers sail to time.

Summary.

THE BOARD OF INLAND REVENUE inform us that they will not treat organs or parts of the human body as they do ailments, names, and in consequence a large number of popular preparations will not be liable to stamp-duty (p. 731).

We give on p. 735 a long list of preparations which fall within the new interpretation, some that are doubtful, and examples of others which do not benefit. At the same time we show who have helped to bring the Board round to this view.

MR. JOHN C. UMNEY gives particulars as to methods which might be adopted to avoid the application of Section 3 of the 1802 Act to manufacturers supplying known, admitted, and approved remedies to registered chemists, and suggests that manufacturers should express their views on the desirability of approaching the Board on the matter (p. 752).

MANY notes about stamped medicines will be found on p. 751 and on p. 755.

THE analysis of "salts" containing an insoluble phosphate is discussed by Dr. Leonard Dobbin on p. 716.

THE PRIZES in last month's Students' Corner are won by Messrs. Samuel Manners and C. W. Bayley (p. 716).

DR. BLAUD'S PILLS are not a proprietary medicine—some people think. An interview with the manager for the proprietors is printed on p. 748.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY is taking action against ten unqualified assistants in Glasgow who are charged with illegally selling poisons (p. 678).

DISCHARGES FROM BANKRUPTCY have in the Ashmore failure been suspended as follows: H. L. and H. B. Ashmore three years, A. L. Ashmore four years (p. 742).

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS who do trade with tanners will find interesting particulars regarding new processes of liming and bating, by Mr. J. T. Wood, on p. 751.

A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT of the volumetric quantities for B.P. dilute acids is suggested by Messrs. Cowley and Catford, with the view to making the numbers even (p. 726).

CAJUPUT OIL has recently gone up in price considerably, one result being that it is now much adulterated with eucalyptus oil. Mr. J. C. Umney gives particulars in a note on p. 725).

DISCUSSIONS on stamped-medicine difficulties are general throughout the country, and several are reported in this issue, particularly at Edinburgh (p. 725) and Liverpool (p. 726).

THE LONDON CITY COURT JUDGE has ruled that delivery of goods to carriers within the Court's jurisdiction does not entitle the consignors to start a debt-action in that Court (p. 733).

DR. GEORGE COULL, MR. A. DAVIDSON, AND MR. D. B. DOTT have been nominated as Pharmaceutical Examiners for Scotland, in place of Messrs. Innes Fraser, John Nesbit, and J. F. Tocher (p. 724).

DR. BERTÉ, of Messina, who, with Professor Soldani, devised the method of estimating citral in lemon oil, which was recently in dispute, maintains the correctness of the method, and gives particulars about the process (p. 752).

AMONG the articles which have advanced on the drug and allied markets are cloves, copper sulphate, dextrin, farina, menthol, clove oil, saffron, shellac, and Japanese wax. Balsam Peru and benzols are firmer. Chlorate of potash, tartaric acid, ergot, and soft shipping opium are easier (p. 743).

PARTICULARS respecting the forthcoming U.S.P. are communicated by Dr. Hallberg, who deals with the more important principles which the Committee of Revision had to decide, including limits of purity, isolated principles, synthetic products, alkaloidal assays, antiloxin, and posology (p. 749).

AT the further hearing in the case respecting stolen patents, evidence was given by representatives of Messrs. Thomas Beecham and John Morgan Richards & Sons (Limited), who identified "patents" found on Davies' premises as having been supplied to the Co-operative Wholesale Society (p. 747).

AN IRISH apothecary's assistant in the service of Messrs. Foreshaw & Snow, chemists, Bradford, charged by the Pharmaceutical Society with illegally selling poison, set up the defence that as an apothecary he was exempt by Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act. Judge Bompas, K.C., set aside the defence (p. 733). We show in an article on p. 735 that this settles the pretentious claim made on behalf of apothecaries' assistants.

Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, PH.D.

REPORTS.

THE powder distributed to students on September 30 consisted of equal parts by weight of barium chloride, calcium orthophosphate, and magnesium hydroxycarbonate.

The calculated composition of such a mixture is

Ba ...	...	...	...	18.7
Ca ...	...	...	...	12.9
Mg ...	...	...	...	8.5
Cl ...	...	...	...	9.7
PO ₄...	...	...	...	20.4
CO ₃...	...	...	...	15.6
OH ...	...	...	...	3.0
H ₂ O ...	...	...	...	11.2
				100.0

The sulphuric radical was also present in small quantity as impurity.

Samples of the powder were distributed to fifty-eight students, and thirty-six reports were sent in for examination.

The failures in the detection of the several constituents of the powder were: (a) Metallic radicals—Barium, 8; calcium, 12; magnesium, 4. (b) Acid radicals—Hydrochloric, 6; phosphoric, 6; carbonic, 1. Thirteen students failed to observe the evolution of water when the powder was heated in a dry test-tube.

The presence of an insoluble phosphate in a mixture containing metallic radicals belonging to the iron, barium, and magnesium groups involves the adoption of analytical methods which are distinctly more complicated than those employed in the absence of phosphates. This month's exercise probably formed as simple an example of a mixture requiring the special treatment necessitated by the presence of an insoluble phosphate as could be furnished in any case in which three metallic radicals were involved. The general character of many of the reports sent in for examination shows, however, that the methods of dealing with such mixtures are by no means fully understood; while in a number of cases the necessity for any departure from the ordinary procedure employed in the absence of phosphates was altogether ignored, or at least overlooked, and with disastrous consequences. Several students dispensed with anything of the nature of a systematic examination, and contented themselves by applying a few special tests for particular metallic radicals; but it was almost impossible in this way to arrive at reliable conclusions.

It is not difficult to explain the nature of the complication that may arise in the case of phosphate mixtures. While phosphates generally are soluble in dilute hydrochloric acid, a considerable number are insoluble in alkaline solutions; and hence, after the metallic radicals of the copper and arsenium groups have been removed from an acid solution by means of hydrogen sulphide, and the filtrate—freed from excess of hydrogen sulphide, and boiled with nitric acid to convert any ferrous salt into ferric—is rendered slightly alkaline by the addition of ammonia, in order to remove any iron, chromium, and aluminium which it may contain, barium-group and magnesium phosphates may accompany the precipitate due to the presence of the iron-group metals, or they may be precipitated by themselves in the absence of these metals. Mere inspection of the precipitate will not afford any safe guidance as to whether it consists (a) of iron-group hydroxides or phosphates, or (b) of barium-group or magnesium phosphates, or (c) of a mixture of (a) and (b). Accordingly, any precipitate formed at this stage must be

tested for the phosphoric radical, and, if this be present, one or other of the special methods for its elimination must be adopted before the examination for the metallic radicals can be proceeded with.

It may be mentioned here that some borates, fluorides, and oxalates give rise to complications of a kind analogous to those due to phosphates; but the removal of the radicals of these acids does not usually present so much difficulty as the separation of the phosphoric radical does.

Of the special methods which have been proposed for the analysis of mixtures containing metals of the iron, barium, and magnesium groups, two are in common use, and both, when carefully applied, give good results. These are often described as "the acetate method" and "the tin method" respectively. In the former method (which is the better known) the phosphoric radical is precipitated from an acetic-acid solution as ferric phosphate, while in the latter it is eliminated in the form of a substance, insoluble in nitric acid, which is probably a phospho-stannic compound. Most text-books of analytical chemistry give some details regarding the procedure in the case of the acetate method, at least, but as a rule these are not accompanied by much explanation of the principles on which the method is based. The limitations of space do not permit of details with respect to either of the methods being at present given at sufficient length to be useful; but on a future occasion we shall return to the consideration of various particulars concerning both methods, not only as regards procedure, but also with reference to the principles involved.

PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to SAMUEL MANNERS, 7 Vere Street, Oxford Street, W.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

C. W. BAYLEY, 37 Buckingham Road, Brighton.

First Prize.—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Second Prize.—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

1. Correspondents who are unqualified:

Samuel Manners (first prize) ...	97	Silver	...	84
C. W. Bayley (second prize) ...	96	Ambition	...	83
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2. Correspondents who are qualified, or who have not indicated that they are unqualified:

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Earle ...	45	Liaph	...	75
S. G. Fenton ...	—	Nihil	86
Gnoscopine ...	92	Oomah	...	95

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SAMUEL KELLY.—The value of your analysis would have been distinctly enhanced had you treated the powder in accordance with one of the special methods applicable to the systematic examination of mixtures containing insoluble phosphates.

L. S. LINDLEY.—The application of a few special tests for individual metallic radicals did not in any way compensate for the omission to carry out a systematic phosphate-separation.

ACETONE (Norfolk).—When the removal of phosphoric acid by means of ferric chloride in an acetic acid solution has been properly carried out, the filtrate should be quite free from iron—the excess of iron being converted, on boiling, into insoluble basic ferric acetate, which is separated along with the ferric phosphate by filtration. We are inclined to think that had the powder contained aluminium, you would have failed to detect it—at least your report does not give any indication to the contrary. The calcium present was much more than a trace, as the quantitative composition of the powder shows.

ALCHEMIST.—We easily obtained evidence of the presence of chloride on applying the chromyl-chloride test. When a small quantity of the powder was mixed with twice its weight of potassium bichromate and treated with concentrated sulphuric acid, a brown vapour was slowly evolved in the cold; and when the vapour was carefully poured from the generating-tube into a test-tube containing some water, a solution was obtained which gave a distinct yellow precipitate on the addition of lead acetate. We can offer no explanation for the failure of the test in your hands.

SEMEL.—In one part of your analysis you added sodium phosphate to a solution containing free acetic acid to test for magnesium, overlooking the fact that ammonium magnesium phosphate, which you wished to obtain as a precipitate, dissolves in acetic acid.

T. G. BIRKETT.—The precipitate produced on adding ammonium chloride, ammonia, and ammonium sulphide to the original solution should have been submitted to a systematic examination for aluminium, barium-group, and magnesium phosphates. You appear to have ignored the possibility of aluminium being present.

Q. E. D., GNOSCOPIE, and Others.—You should not have overlooked the evolution of water when the powder was heated in a dry tube. The proportion of water given off was by no means inconsiderable.

J. S. W.—It was futile to look for aluminium in the filtrate obtained after removing the phosphoric acid as ferric phosphate. Had aluminium been present it would have been removed as phosphate along with the iron. See reply to "Q. E. D."

G. J. LUSHER.—Had you evaporated to dryness a few drops of the aqueous extract from the powder, you would have found that a very distinct residue was left. Failure to yield a precipitate on the addition of sulphuric acid does not show that a solution is free from calcium.

W. P. P.—The blue glass test for the potassium-flame is not applicable to flames coloured by metals of the barium group. There is nothing in your report to indicate that you added ferric chloride in excess, to ensure the complete removal of the phosphoric-acid radical before proceeding to test for aluminium, &c., and the results you obtained on examining the filtrate after the removal of the ferric phosphate, would appear to indicate that you did not do so.

FESTINA LENTE.—We do not regard "luc's" as of much account in chemical analysis. Careful manipulation and close observation and reasoning will always bring the best workers to the front. Your position in this month's list is quite creditable.

SILVER and J. H. BELL.—The powder contained sulphate in small quantity, but the sulphur reaction which you got in the residue from the match-test was probably due in great measure to sulphur present in the wood of the match. All wood contains more or less sulphur in combination, either as sulphate or in some other form.

DURUS.—The precipitate which you mistook for lead chloride probably consisted of barium chloride. The latter salt is insoluble in concentrated hydrochloric acid, and it appears probable that you employed this reagent in attempting to prepare a solution of the original powder.

ANGUS SCOTT and SYLVESTRIS.—Your solution of ammonium molybdate requires attention, or your mode of applying it is faulty. The phosphoric radical, as you will observe, was present in large quantity.

ALCHEMY.—We fail to fathom your object in adding sodium phosphate along with ammonium acetate to the hydrochloric acid solution of a phosphate precipitate from which you wished to separate the phosphoric-acid radical.

EARLE.—In examining a precipitate which may contain mixed carbonates of the barium group, it will not do to test separate portions of the acetic acid solution of the precipitate by means of sulphuric acid and ammonium oxalate for strontium and calcium respectively, in the known presence of barium, since the barium will give indications with both of these reagents. Your supposed strontium sulphate was really barium sulphate. We cannot comprehend your failure to detect barium in the aqueous extract from the powder.

S. G. FENTON.—It is impossible to assess the value of your analysis when the results alone are stated without any account of the evidence upon which those results are based.

IRALAS.—It would have been well to apply some characteristic test for bromide before concluding that it was present. The liberation of bromine, for instance, by means of chlorine, is usually a simple matter.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Liquid air is to be used for blasting-purposes in coalmines, says a correspondent of the *Times*.

Damage to the amount of over 20,000*l.* was caused by a fire which broke out on October 23 at Luton, on the premises of Messrs. Hayward Tyler & Co., brassfounders, engineers, and manufacturers of aerated-water machinery.

Sir Robert Symes has consented to act as Lord Mayor of Bristol for another year, making his sixth occupancy in succession of the Chief Magistrate's chair. He has served the office of High Sheriff, thus establishing a unique record in civic annals.

At the last meeting of the Fulham Board of Guardians the question of printing a *Pharmacopœia*, prepared by the medical superintendent at the Fulham Infirmary, was discussed at some length. Ultimately it was decided that three hundred printed copies of the *Pharmacopœia* should be obtained.

At North London Police Court, on October 24, Jessie Fraser (23), a shorthand clerk, was sent to prison for six weeks with hard labour, for obtaining goods by false pretences. It was stated by the court missionary that prisoner's vagaries were due to her being a victim of the morphine habit.

At the Southampton County Court last week, William Millar, a colonial gentleman residing at Cowes, succeeded in an action against Goodmans (Limited), dentists, for the return of 2*l.* paid for a set of false teeth which had proved of no service when supplied. The hearing was a long one as a cheque transaction complicated matters.

At a meeting of the Portsmouth Board of Guardians last week, a member made complaint that the Infirmary Committee purchased drugs to the extent of between 3*l.* and 4*l.* per week without a contract. The Chairman of the Infirmary Committee expressed surprise at the statement, and the matter is to come up for further consideration.

At Grimsby Quarter Sessions on October 27, John J. Reinecke, herbalist, successfully appealed against a conviction obtained against him at the instance of the Inland Revenue for keeping a refreshment-house without a licence. For the appellant it was urged that medicated drinks only were sold, and that the appellant was not the resident owner or occupier of the premises.

Grocers and Stamped Medicines.

When the resolution regarding the stamping of simple medicines (see *C. & D.*, October 24, page 675) was introduced at the Federation of Grocers' Associations at Newport (Mon.) last week, Mr. F. W. Beck (solicitor to the Federation) was invited to explain the legal aspect of the question. This, as most chemists know, no one is qualified to do better than Mr. Beck, and he put before the assembled grocers a succinct history of the causes leading up to the present intricate state of affairs. He pointed out that upon the present construction of the law pennyworths of liver-pills, antibilious-pills, and so forth were liable for duty, the only difference between the grocer and the chemist being that if the chemist puts on his label that the remedy (whatever it may be) was prepared in accordance with a standard recipe he was not liable to duty. A grocer might sell any proprietary medicine that did not contain poison, or any ordinary domestic remedy, provided he did not recommend it by label for the use of any

particular ailment. The resolution proposed the only effective remedy for this inconvenience to the grocer. There was the remedy of legislation on the subject, but seeing the Inland Revenue authorities had been content to let the matter rest so long for the convenience of the public, one would think that if proper representation were made to them they would be prepared to revert to their old method of procedure under reasonable conditions. He thought if a deputation was appointed no harm could be done and possibly some good. It was a far more serious matter for the manufacturers than for the retailer. Grocers should take care to obtain a warranty from manufacturers, saying that no risk was being run in selling those articles. Mr. R. T. Duerdin inquired whether Mr. Beck thought "the authorities had been got at in any way by the Society of Chemists and Druggists." Mr. Beck replied that the proceedings taken came as a great shock and surprise to a great many chemists, and caused a great deal more consternation among them than among grocers. He did not think there was any reason to suppose the authorities had been got at. In reply to further questions, Mr. Beck explained that the grocer could not sell what the chemist put up from a standard recipe, and that if pushed to a conclusion cough-lozenges could not be sold by grocers unstamped.

Chemists as Public Men.

The following gentlemen have been elected unopposed members of town councils:

Mr. John A. Heaton, chemist and druggist, Burnley.

Mr. Walter Aston, chemist and druggist, 27 Montague Street, Worthing.

Mr. Ernest Williams, chemist and druggist, 1 Arwenack Street, Falmouth.

Mr. Owen Aly Clark, chemist and druggist, 13 Abbeygate Street, Bury St. Edmunds.

Mr. Thos. Brewis, chemist and druggist, Holm Leigh, and 325 Fratton Road, Portsmouth.

Mr. J. J. Shawyer, chemist and druggist, is mentioned as the probable Mayor of Swindon.

Mr. E. H. Storey, pharmaceutical chemist, 42 Castle Street East, Oxford Street, W., has been re-elected unopposed as a councillor for the Cavendish Ward of the borough of St. Marylebone.

Mr. Stephen Harris, chemist, High Street, has been re-elected, without opposition, to the Town Council of Droitwich. Mr. Harris has already been elected three times, having served nine years as a councillor.

The following paragraphs refer to contested seats:

At the forthcoming Portsmouth municipal elections Mr. W. R. Fowler, a retired chemist, is to contest the seat for the Highland Ward.

In the Park Ward, Lincoln, Mr. Page Horner Woodcock, patent-medicine company director, the retiring councillor, is to be opposed by Mr. James D. Goy, retired dentist.

The nominations for Bridlington include Mr. J. W. Wilcock, chemist and druggist, High Street; and for the Hildesthorpe Ward, Mr. J. V. Mainprize, chemist and druggist, King Street. There are eleven candidates for six vacancies.

Mr. Walter Moorhouse, wholesale chemist, 40 Kirkgate, Wakefield, who is one of the retiring members of the Council, has been nominated for the St. John's and Kirkgate Wards, and, it is understood, has decided to fight in the former ward.

London Chamber of Commerce.

On Wednesday afternoon, October 21, the inauguration of the opening of the new offices of the London Chamber of Commerce took place in the Council-chamber at the new premises in Oxford Court, Salters' Hall Court, Cannon Street, E.C., Lord Brassey (President of the Chamber) in the chair. Besides the Chairman there were present Messrs. J. H. Tritton, A. G. Sandeman, and J. Innes Rogers (Vice-Presidents), E. J. Gillespie (Chairman of Council), Albert Spicer (Deputy-Chairman of Council), R. K. Causton, M.P., Martin

Deed, Arthur Serena, L. R. S. Tomalin, G. N. Hooper, C. Charleton, W. J. Thompson, jun., and R. Wales (members of Council), and many others. In the course of a short speech, Lord Brassey said the Chamber was started in 1881, through the initiative of the late Mr. Samuel Morley, seconded by Mr. J. H. Tritton and others, and for three months occupied one room at 26 Nicholas Lane, E.C. In 1882 larger premises were taken in King William Street, E.C., but these in time proved inadequate for the work of the Chamber, and in 1887 the Chamber removed to Botolph House, 10 Eastcheap, E.C., and stayed there until September last, constant extensions of the office accommodation proving so futile that in 1900 a company was formed for the purpose of acquiring premises for the Chamber. Now the Chamber is in possession of the large building in Oxford Court, with a floor-space of 15,000 square feet, about half of which is occupied by the various departments. The increased space is rendered necessary by the development of various departments of the Chamber's work. The number of meetings, lectures, and classes, and the like convened exceeds four hundred per annum, and it has not been an infrequent occurrence, despite the inadequate accommodation in Eastcheap, for three meetings to be held at the same hour. The statistical and information department and members' room now occupies over twice the space, and two large rooms are devoted to the exclusive use of individual members. In addition to the members' room, with its facilities for reading, writing, and personal interviews, a reference library has been provided for the books, newspapers, and other documents of a commercial character in daily use in the Chamber's statistical and information department. The commercial-education department has shown an enormous increase. No fewer than 4,000 candidates from over one hundred different centres in eleven parts of the Empire presented themselves for examination under the Chamber's scheme, and the department has now a room to itself. The position of the new premises is central, and one which it is hoped will prove advantageous to the 3,800 members of the Chamber. Suggestions have been made that other commercial associations connected with particular trades or industries should occupy certain space in the building not immediately required by the Chamber itself, with the idea of centralising various organisations and utilising the exceptional facilities for holding their meetings at one centre. Following Lord Brassey, Mr. A. G. Sandeman (a past-president of the Chamber), Mr. J. Innes Rogers, and Mr. Albert Spicer spoke. Mr. Spicer assured his hearers that although the new offices are situated in a bit of old-world London, it would be found that the work of the Chamber is thoroughly up to date. He said that now every member of the Chamber has the privilege (whether present or absent) of voting for members to the Council; and he urged the merchants and bankers of London to support with funds the commercial-education scheme, which is one of the most necessary and useful branches of the Chamber's work. The company afterwards inspected the new offices, under the guidance of the Secretary (Mr. Kenric B. Murray) and his adjutants. A luncheon at the Cannon Street Hotel, over which Lord Brassey presided, preceded the inspection.

Sheffield Notes.

The Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society include in their syllabus for the coming session papers by two of their members, Mr. Frederick A. Upsher Smith and Mr. John Evans. Both these gentlemen are Bell scholars, and by a curious coincidence won the scholarship in successive years, Mr. Upsher Smith in 1896, and Mr. Evans in 1897. The latter is at present on the staff of Mr. A. H. Allen, city analyst, while Mr. Upsher Smith is with Messrs. Robinson, of Chesterfield. Mr. J. W. J. Turner, another member who has promised to give a paper, is the principal of the local College of Pharmacy.

The municipal elections here are creating an unusual amount of interest, there being contests in twelve out of sixteen wards in which there are vacancies. The contest in the Burngrave Ward, where Mr. J. M. Furness, chemist and druggist, is opposing the editor of one of the local newspapers, promises to be exceptionally keen. Mr. Furness is no lambled out for municipal slaughter, having already served as a councillor for about eleven years, he being first elected as

long ago as 1890. He is recognised by both parties as a strong candidate.

The Dispenser's Pension.

The Shoreditch Guardians have advanced a further stage in their consideration of the superannuation-allowance to their late dispenser, Mr. T. S. Goodall, chemist and druggist (see *C. & D.*, September 12, page 455, and October 3, page 560). At the meeting of the Guardians last week a communication was received from Mr. Goodall, stating that as he had already submitted a medical certificate of permanent disability from his own doctor, he contended that he had complied in every way with the requirements of the Superannuation Act. It was quite impossible for him to call on a medical man, but he was perfectly willing to see another doctor at his own home on the distinct understanding that any expenses incurred should be borne by the Guardians. Mr. Vandy was of opinion that the Guardians ought to accept this certificate. Mr. Ferris said it seemed to him at the time nothing but sheer "cussedness" to drive this matter further. He should certainly give notice to rescind the resolution in which the Guardians asked for the opinion of a specialist. Mr. Neal said as far as he was concerned it was nothing of the kind. He did not doubt the doctor's opinion, and had not the late officer written to say he hoped to resume his duties, he should not have supported the motion for getting the opinion of a specialist. Mr. Harverson said he would second the rescission, and there the matter appears to have ended for the time being.

Mellin's Food in the Air.

There was considerable amusement in Mr. Justice Darling's Court on Wednesday, October 28, during the hearing of an action by Mr. Stanley Spencer, the aeronaut, to recover 500*l.* from Mellin's Food (Limited), being the balance of a contract-price of 1,500*l.* for an advertisement of Mellin's food on Mr. Spencer's airship. The defence was that the plaintiff had not made a specified number of return journeys with his navigable balloon, showing the advertisement in question, across some portion of London starting from the Crystal Palace, and the company asked the Court to order Mr. Spencer to pay back the 1,000*l.* they gave him. In the result the jury returned a verdict for the defendants, and for the plaintiff on the counterclaim.

Midland Notes.

Messrs. P. Harris & Co. have issued a well-got-up price-list intended specially for the medical profession. It is of convenient pocket size, and deals with specialities and medical requisites.

Pharmacy is having a field-day in the *Birmingham Mail*. The editorial opinions on camphor and cod-liver oil called forth a letter evidently from one in the know, who stated that "there are cheaper things which are equally effectual if the medical men only knew them and would recommend them."

The enormous amount of work done by dispensaries is exemplified by the report of the Stourbridge dispensary, of which Mr. T. F. Bland, pharmaceutical chemist, is hon. secretary. The number of attendances at the dispensary for the year was 9,610, and the visits paid by the house surgeon 3,770.

It is not often that a layman complains of elegant pharmacy, but a correspondent objects to cachets. "Why," he asked, "should solids be bolted dry? The mouth and the salivary glands were intended to moisten all objects before swallowing them," he writes; and he opines that much harm is done thereby.

"The unexpected often happens," writes a Birmingham correspondent. "The publication of recipes in the mother tongue is already bearing fruit. A layman imagines he has some ailment—a liver, for instance—and, turning over the pages of a contemporaneous supplemental document which he finds at the Free Library in Ratcliffe Place, he transcribes the recipe which he thinks fits his case and takes it round to Easy Row to be dispensed. There it is recognised. A librarian—a dabbler in physic—also discovers the new feature, and culls therefrom the needful, and he too follows in the wake. But is all this good for pharmacy? Perhaps so; but even Bloomsbury dog Latin would be better than none."

An Unfounded Accusation.

At Clerkenwell Police Court, on October 23, Herbert Hewitt, (18), an engineer, was charged with assaulting Joseph Arch, a traveller; and his father, Herbert Hewitt (45), described as a chemist, residing at Highbury Quadrant, was charged with assaulting Mabel Stevens, aged fourteen years, and George Wright, a typewriter at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The defendants and the complainants were leaving the Brewers' Exhibition the previous evening in a crowd, when the girl Mabel Stevens complained of being assaulted. The elder Hewitt was alleged to have behaved improperly. He stoutly denied the accusation, when he was struck by the girl's father. Considerable excitement prevailed at the moment, and the quarrel was continued outside, the younger Hewitt taking a prominent part in defending his father. After hearing the evidence, Mr. Baggallay (the Magistrate) said it was quite a mistake to suppose that the elder Hewitt, a perfectly respectable man, insulted the girl, although it was possible that some lewd person did. He (the magistrate) was quite satisfied that there was no ground for the accusation, which appeared to have been the result of a mistake on the part of one of the complainants. He was very sorry the defendants had been charged and so brutally knocked about. They were discharged.

The Ammonia-pistol.

At Enfield, on October 26, a motor cyclist was charged at the instance of the R.S.P.C.A. with cruelty to a dog. Accused, who rode his cycle daily between Ponder's End and Cheshunt, had been annoyed by an Irish terrier, which repeatedly sought to attack him as he passed, and learning that a pistol charged with water or ammonia was an excellent remedy in such circumstances, he purchased one, and the next time the dog rushed at him he discharged a 50 per-cent. ammonia solution in the dog's face. The dog's sight was destroyed, and evidence was given that the animal suffered such terrible agony that it had to be killed. A *post-mortem* examination showed that the muscles behind the dog's eyes had been contracted into knots. Accused said he had no intention of hurting the animal. He read the suggestion as to the ammonia-pistol in a cycling paper. The Chairman of the Magistrates condemned the accused in strong language, and fined him 20*s.* and costs, or twenty-one days' hard labour. The Chairman added a hope that the R.S.P.C.A. would prosecute the cycling paper for advocating cruelty and the sellers of ammonia-pistols for abetting it.

Christmas-boxes.

At the Grocers' Federation meeting at Newport (Mon.) on October 22, a resolution was submitted from the Northern Council to the effect that the General Purposes Committee recommend the trade "not to deal with any firm of printers who endeavour to coerce grocers to revert to the pernicious custom of giving Christmas-boxes or almanacs." The mover of the resolution read a notice which, he said, had been extensively circulated in Lancashire, inviting the public to forward the names of grocers who did not give such presents, and the firm would forward the names of other tradesmen who did. He regarded the notice as an attempt at coercion. The motion was seconded and supported by several members, but the Chairman said the question was one that needed careful treatment. Ultimately a resolution to refer the matter to the Parliamentary Committee was agreed to, and power was given to take such action as might be desirable.

Analysts' Reports.

Mr. Arthur E. Ekins, county analyst for Hertfordshire, reports that eighty-six samples of food and drugs were analysed by him during the quarter ended September 30. Of these, eight were drugs—camphorated oil (two), Gregory's powder (three), lime-water (two), and tincture of rhubarb. All the samples were genuine. Two samples of olive oil were examined, one of which was found to be adulterated with mineral oil to the extent of 98 per cent.

The Bradford city analyst (Mr. F. W. Richardson) reports that during the quarter ending September 30 he analysed 121 samples of food and drugs, of which only seven were found to be adulterated. Commenting upon the presence of chromate of potash in a sample of milk, in the proportion of $\frac{3}{10}$ gr. per pint, he states that, though this small amount

could scarcely be regarded as dangerous, the addition of a chromate for giving a creamy appearance to milk constitutes adulteration. A sample of cream contained 15 gr. of boric acid in 1 pint, but this was not considered excessive. An ipecacuanha-wine gave only two-fifths of the proper amount of active principles. A compound liquorice-powder contained twice the proper proportion of sulphur, with a corresponding deficiency of the more expensive constituents.

Lincoln Dancers.

On October 21 the managers and employees of Boots (Limited) in Lincoln gave their opening dance and social evening in St. Martin's parish-room, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln. The proceedings commenced at 8 P.M., and were carried on until 1 A.M. A most successful and enjoyable evening was spent, about eighty invited guests being present. The M.C.'s, Messrs. Kelsey, Partridge, Redhouse, and Gill, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Playford, were congratulated on their excellent arrangements.

A Dangerous Metal-polish.

At the Manchester Police Court, on October 28, Henry F. Chope, manager of the Anglo-American Export Agency, Deansgate, Manchester, was summoned by the Manchester Corporation for having kept on his premises a quantity of "solarine"—a metal-polish containing petroleum—without having a licence, and also for having failed to label the vessels containing the polish with the words, "Highly inflammable." The evidence showed that the Corporation seized 224 cases of "solarine" (the cost price of which was 350%), and that, on analysis, the polish was found to be composed of petroleum which the city analyst said would flash at a temperature as low as 53° F. It was a highly inflammable liquor, and, in his opinion, not a safe article to sell. The defence was that the company did not know the polish contained petroleum. The Stipendiary (Mr. E. Bricley) said that there was no doubt the law had been broken in ignorance. He imposed a fine of 20s. and costs, with 5s. for the analyst's fee. He said that the "solarine" must be forfeited, but perhaps some arrangement could be made between the prosecution and the defendant.

The Week's Poisonings.

Only three of the fifteen deaths from poisoning that have been reported during the week can be attributed to misadventure. One of these was a case in which a Stockport tailor, named Griffiths, drank a solution of ammonia in mistake for water. The other unscheduled poisons used were hydrochloric acid, taken by John Neville, a labourer, of Westminster; and a Sheffield woman named Sarah Hague committed suicide with salt of lemon. Four cases of cyanogen-poisoning have occurred. Julia McAusland, the wife of a doctor in Upper Holloway, drank prussic acid, and the same poison was taken by James Thomas Livesey (48), chemist and druggist, at Rotherham. At the inquest on the latter the evidence was to the effect that deceased had been in business as a chemist and druggist at Lewes, Sussex, but failed. For some years past he had held various appointments as chemist's assistant. About three weeks ago he went to Jarrow-on-Tyne to take up a position with Messrs. Birch & Co., chemists, Rotherham, but was discharged on account of his drinking-habits. He was found dead in bed. In the bedroom were two small bottles containing hydrocyanic acid. Gertrude Ella King, a domestic servant, at Brondesbury, secured some cyanide of potassium, which her employer (who is a collector of moths) kept in the house, and swallowed a solution. Joseph George Middleton, a jeweller, living at Crouch Hill, poisoned himself in a similar manner. A Ramsgate laundryman named Betts drank a strong solution of oxalic acid, and died. Another misadventure occurred at Ashton-on-Mersey, where James Jones took a draught of oxalic acid and spirit of salt in mistake for Bass's ale, the two liquids being in similar bottles on his table. Elizabeth Bullger, of New Malden, committed suicide with carbolic acid, and a Maida Vale gentleman named Cohen, who suffered from diabetes, took an overdose of morphine, which accelerated his death. Beatrice Pickering, of Loampit Vale, who suffered from sleeplessness and neuralgia, took an overdose of chlorodyne and died by misadventure. Mrs. Elizabeth Walker, of

Middlesborough, died from laudanum-poisoning. A Wigan woman, also named Walker, died from the effects of drinking a poisonous liniment; and a Leeds man named Gadsby committed suicide with a poison not named. A Worcester leather-worker, William Alfred Bishop, died from supposed arsenical poisoning, and a farm-labourer at Liverpool named Lewis died with symptoms of creosote-poisoning, but in neither case was there direct evidence to show the cause of death, and open verdicts were returned.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Tender.

The Governors of the Mayo Infirmary invite tenders for supply of medicines and medical appliances for twelve months. Tenders to be sent in on or before November 6 to Mr. Joseph Sheridan, Secretary, Castlebar.

Personal.

Mr. Geo. H. C. MacManus, who has been representing Messrs. Hunt & Co., Dublin, for several years, is now to represent Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay, Birmingham, on the Irish ground and part of Scotland.

Contract.

The Governors of the Meath Hospital, Dublin, have accepted the tender of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, for the supply of drugs to the institution; and of the Medical Supply Association for surgical dressings, &c.

The Limerick Dispenser's Salary.

At the meeting of the Limerick Board of Guardians a resolution was proposed to rescind the recent order of the Board (*C. & D.*, October 17) increasing the salary of the apothecary from 80% to 100% a year. The resolution was defeated by twenty-nine votes to sixteen.

The Sheep-dip Case.

An agitation is being got up on the question of the restrictions on the sale of sheep-dip (see *C. & D.*, last week). The matter is being kept alive by correspondents in some of the Dublin newspapers. One correspondent writes:

A lunatic would never think of poisoning his wife, his relative, or his neighbour with such a distasteful and remarkable dose. The intended poisoner would have a much readier material in dissolving half a box of matches and sweetening the solution for the intended victim. If the sale of sheep-dip is confined to druggists and apothecaries, &c., it will not be readily available to numbers of small sheep-owners, who will therefore neglect in hundreds of instances its use, and as a result the terrible plague of sheep-scab will be the outcome.

Cattle Poisoned.

At the Boyle Quarter Sessions, Patrick McHugh, Cloonslanor, sued Miss McHugh, general dealer, Strokestown, for 10l. damages for breach of contract. Defendant contracted to supply plaintiff with a quantity of cattle-medicine, but instead supplied some poisonous substance which killed the cattle. Mr. E. Ryan, veterinary surgeon, Strokestown, said in his opinion the cattle died from irritant poisoning. Mr. F. Corney, an assistant in the defendant's establishment, said what he sold to the plaintiff was sweet oil, which he filled direct from the tap. The oil was pure, and contained no mineral oil. He also sold the oil to another man, and his cattle died. His Lordship gave a decree for 6l., and costs.

Checking the Analyst.

Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe, drug-contractors to the Navan Union, wrote to the last meeting of the Guardians of that union with reference to the certificate of Professor Tichborne, stating that the liq. chirate conc. supplied was 15 per cent. deficient in extract. The letter stated that Professor Tichborne was in error even on his own figures. It was pointed out that he gave the extractive as 3.4 grams per 100 c.c., and opposite this

he states that the standard extractive is 4. This, they stated, would leave only a deficiency of 0.6, or a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Moreover, the letter proceeded, the Local Government Board's minimum standard of total solids in 100 c.c. is 3, and not 4, as stated by Professor Tichborne. In these circumstances they could not replace the drug until the matter is referred to Professor Tichborne for explanation.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Laudanum-poisoning.

On October 23 a man named Jas. Nicoll, residing at 27 Cross Street, Perth, was found lying on a seat on the South Inch, Perth, suffering from laudanum-poisoning. He was removed to the infirmary, but succumbed shortly after admission.

Pears and the "Meal Poke."

Professor Bellyse Baildon, writing to the *Dundee Evening Telegraph*, states that, on the attention of Mr. Thomas J. Barratt, managing director of A. & F. Pears (Limited), being called to the fact that the bazaar book of the University Students' Union Bazaar contained, under the title, "A Classic Fragment," a gratuitous advertisement of Pears' soap, he sent a cheque for two guineas to the editors of the "Meal Poke."

In a Fighting Mood.

At Aberdeen Police Court on October 26, William Duffus, druggist, Canal Road, Aberdeen, was charged with having assaulted a boy named Leslie George McLean, by throwing him with violence to the ground, kicking him, and injuring him to the effusion of blood, and with having assumed a fighting attitude towards several persons, and created a breach of the peace. He pleaded guilty, and was ordered to pay a fine of 20s. or go to prison for ten days.

Potential Councillors.

The following gentlemen connected with the drug-trade in Scotland have been nominated as candidates for their respective Town Councils:

Mr. J. M. Wilson, chemist and druggist, Inch.
Mr. John Raffan, chemist and druggist, Stirling.
Mr. William Doig, chemist and druggist, Dundee.
Mr. William Lyle, chemist and druggist, Rothesay.
Mr. William Giles, chemist and druggist, Aberdeen.
Mr. Andrew Forrester, chemist and druggist, Dysart.
Mr. James Bisset, chemist and druggist, Burntisland.
Mr. Richard Clark (Raimes, Clark & Co.), Edinburgh.
Mr. Thomas MacFarlane, chemist and druggist, Biggar.
Mr. Walter Davidson, chemist and druggist, Blairgowrie.
Mr. Thomas Lumsden, chemist and druggist, Linlithgow.

Right of Access.

Lord Kyllachy closed the record on October 23 in an action by Robert Stenhouse, chemist, High Street, Musselburgh, with consent of Margaret Alice Smith, against Thomas Mitchell, mat-manufacturer, Musselburgh. The complainant is tenant and the consentor is proprietrix of 75 and 77 High Street, Musselburgh. The purpose of this action is to have the respondent interdicted from interfering with the complainant's free and uninterrupted use of the lane as an access to the back portion of his premises for the purpose of depositing, unpacking, and packing boxes and other parcels in connection with his business. The respondent says that he is proprietor of the lane. He allowed Miss Smith's father as a matter of favour to use the lane as an entrance to part of his property, but not for loading or unloading goods, and he would have continued this favour but for her and her tenant using the roadway for depositing goods, thereby interrupting the passage. He is willing, without prejudice to his legal rights, to allow this privilege to be continued during his pleasure as an entrance, but not for the purposes claimed by the complainant. The case was sent to the Procedure Roll.

Glasgow Notes.

The renewed outbreak of smallpox is creating a brisk demand for disinfectants and reputed prophylactics.

There is a proposal before the Town Council for the establishment of dépôts to supply sterilised-milk for infant-feeding.

Mr. W. S. Adams, chemist and druggist, of Cathcart Road, has recently taken over the business of Mr. P. McMaster, Battlefield Road, Largside.

Eight attended the first meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association, and a suggested subject of discussion was, "Does the Present Attendance justify the Existence of this Association?"

Andrew Lang now discovers that the supposed Highland magic stone has really served as the socket for a gate-post. This farcical *dénouement* has excited the fierce wrath of the Highland host, who are in full cry against the hapless anthropologist.

The controversy as to the abuse of soap is not without its humours. A female hydropathist writes to warn the public against all soaps not made from "vegetable alkali." The same reformer strongly recommends oil-rubbing for the skin—coconut for preference. This may explain a sudden rise in the demand for this product.

The Inland Revenue raiders are now extending their operations to the country towns near Glasgow. Labels on which the possessive case is used form the chief "captures." Local chemists spend most of their spare time at present in going round their shops to make assurance doubly sure that everything hypothetically "liable" has been withdrawn from stock.

Forthcoming Glasgow Pharmacy Prosecutions.

As many as ten chemists' assistants, employed in the drug-shops of local doctors and chemists, have just been cited to appear in Glasgow Sheriff Court on Thursday, November 12, to answer complaints charging them, at the instance of Mr. Bremridge, Registrar under the Pharmacy Acts, 1852 and 1863, with contraventions of the Pharmacy Act by selling poisons without being duly registered pharmaceutical chemists or chemists and druggists. The names of the parties against whom complaints have been laid are:

George Annan, assistant in the shop of Dr. Rankin, 14 George Street, Glasgow.

David McNicol, assistant in the shop of Dr. Thomas, 121 Main Street, Tollcross.

George Tennant, assistant in the shop of Dr. Roy Fortune, 154 Gallowgate, Glasgow.

Margaret Macbride, assistant in the shop of Dr. James Green, 133 Castle Street, Glasgow.

Margaret Hudson, assistant in the shop of Dr. Roy Fortune, 107 Castle Street, Glasgow.

William Stoddart, assistant in the shop of J. McCowan, chemist, 141 Garngad Road, Glasgow.

Jane McGuire, assistant in the shop of J. McCowan, chemist, 49 Alexandra Parade, Glasgow.

George Robertson, assistant in the shop of Drs. Craig and Glen, 466 Duke Street, Glasgow.

The above eight assistants are charged with selling opium without being registered chemists.

John Tait, assistant with William Thomson, 9 Rotheby Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow.

John Rae, assistant in the shop of William Thomson, 9 Rotheby Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow.

The charge against the two last-named is that, not being registered chemists, they sold chloroform.

AN ANTI-ALCOHOLIC CONGRESS.—The Paris Faculty of Medicine has offered the hospitality of its large amphitheatre to the first French National Anti-alcoholic Congress, of which M. Casimir-Périer, the erstwhile President of the French Republic, is the Chairman. The proceedings commenced on Monday afternoon last at four o'clock, and the Chairman briefly traced the history of the fight against alcoholism. The object of the Congress is to seek the best means for combating the alcohol-habit in France, to which many medical authorities attribute the spread of insanity and tuberculosis. An anti-alcoholic exhibition is being held in connection with the Congress.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA imported drugs and chemicals to the value of 3,000% during the three months ending June 30, 1903, against 4,000% for the corresponding period of 1902.

MR. FRED. INGRAM, chemist and druggist, of Smit Street, Braamfontein, near Johannesburg, had a rather severe illness when the last mail left, and we join with his many local friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

MR. C. V. EASCOTT, a chemist's assistant, employed by Mr. S. C. Sivertsen, Observatory and Mowbray, Cape Colony, was accidentally drowned at Hout's Bay on October 4. After a heavy luncheon deceased went in for a swim, and after covering about thirty yards was seen to turn over. Help was immediately forthcoming, but death had ensued. Eascott was about forty years of age.

NATAL TRADE WITH U.S.A.—According to the Collector of Customs at Durban, the United States last year exported goods to Natal to the value of \$5,710,413. They included "apothecaries' wares" valued at \$10,696, "medicinal preparations" valued at \$36,129, glass bottles \$1,275, oilmen's stores \$42,139, sheep-dip \$7,567, honey \$622, hops, \$3,737, condensed milk \$65,795, paraffin oil \$235,835, "other oils" \$107,481, and turpentine oil \$22,000.

South African Pharmaceutical Association.

THE nineteenth annual meeting was held in the Council chamber, Queenstown, on September 21. The attendance indicated increased interest in the Association, and the meeting was the most successful and enjoyable yet held. Among those present were Mr. G. F. Dutton (President), Mr. C. Atterbury (Vice-President), Messrs. G. E. Cook, A. G. Doble, and W. K. Mager (members of the Executive), and Messrs. Armstrong, Ford, Lister, and Lomax. Letters expressing regret at inability to attend, and wishing those present a successful meeting, were read from Messrs. McJannet and Willett. The President occupied the chair.

After the minutes were confirmed, correspondence was dealt with. The President gave a *résumé* of

THE YEAR'S WORK.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports, with balance-sheet, were submitted. These were considered very satisfactory, and adopted. The balance-sheet shows a credit balance of 178l. 2s. 7d.

Messrs. J. Forbes (East London), W. H. Hughes (Cathcart), and G. E. Oliver (King William's Town) were elected new members, and Messrs. G. H. Cook, J. C. Fulton, and A. McLeod were admitted as associates. The forthcoming

PHARMACY BOARD ELECTION

was discussed, and it was resolved to support the candidature of Messrs. Mager and McJannet, both being members of the parent Society, and representative of the chemists of the Eastern Province. Mr. Mager has been a member of the Pharmacy Board since its formation in 1891, and during that time has taken an active part in the reforms brought about for the benefit of the profession by the Board. Mr. McJannet is seeking election for the first time, but his name and interest in matters affecting chemists are known throughout the Colony.

The work of the Pharmacy Board came in for a share of attention, and it was resolved to write the Board approving and thanking them for their action in regard to reciprocation of certificates, a general Pharmacy Board for South Africa, and their effort to have a clause inserted in the Act that only qualified persons should be competent to act on the directorate of companies trading as chemists and druggists.

It was decided to have the rules printed up to date and circulated.

Mr. Mager, at the request of the Western Province Association, introduced the subject of amalgamation with their Society. After some discussion, it was resolved not to entertain the idea in the absence of any official communication from their Secretary.

THE ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE

for the ensuing year resulted in Mr. Dutton being re-elected President, Mr. Ford was elected Vice-President, and Messrs. Atterbury, Cook, Doble, McJannet, and Willett members of the Executive,

with Mr. George C. Jamieson (re-elected) as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Lomax proposed, and Mr. Armstrong seconded, a vote of thanks to the retiring Executive for the manner in which the work of the Association had been carried on.

Mr. Cook proposed, and Mr. Lister seconded, a special vote of thanks to the Secretary and Treasurer for the satisfactory way he had carried out his duties.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Queenstown members by the visiting members for their cordial reception, and to the Council for the use of the Council-chamber.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

Mr. Mager gave a cordial invitation to the President and members present to visit the site of the new waterworks scheme for Queenstown at Bongolo. The invitation was accepted, and, accompanied by the Mayor of Queenstown and a few friends, a most enjoyable outing took place after the meeting. This new phase of the Association's meeting was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

BRITISH COMMERCIAL MEN IN PARIS.—The delegates of the City of London International and Commercial Association, who are spending a few days in Paris, have received a very cordial, and even enthusiastic, reception here. The President of the French Reception Committee, M. Mascraud, expresses the opinion that the visit will be the starting-point of a great revival in the commercial relations between France and England.

THE PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY CENTENARY.—I have heard from various quarters that the visits of Messrs. Atkins and Idris have been a source of great satisfaction and pleasure to the members of the Paris Society of Pharmacy. They are also glad to think that these two distinguished representatives of British pharmacy have taken away with them an agreeable impression of their visit to Paris. M. Léger, the President of the Society, has also been kind enough to express his great appreciation of the very complete report of the centenary celebration in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. It was the first printed report to reach the whole of the sixty resident members of the Paris Society of Pharmacy.

THE SALE OF MORPHINE.—A Paris pharmacist named M. Beaujoux has got into serious trouble through selling morphine without a doctor's prescription, and has had to pay a fine of 100fr. (4l.), and 5,000fr. (200l.) damages. The history of the affair was related a few days since in the Paris Correctional Court, when the pharmacist appeared as defendant in an action brought by a M. Primeau, head-waiter in a Paris restaurant, who gave evidence to the effect that after having enjoyed conjugal happiness for fifteen years a change of quite a curious kind came over his wife. A complete indifference to everything had seized her, and she took to remaining in the house the greater part of the day, and finally she remained in bed most of the day. The plaintiff went on to say that his anxiety led him to watch his wife, and he found that the defendant pharmacist was supplying her with morphine. Thereupon evidence was collected which led to the conviction of the pharmacist as mentioned above.

RELICS OF A CRIME.—On October 13 a quantity of unclaimed oddments from the Palace of Justice (Law Courts) were put up to public auction. These included the relics of some criminal trials, and notably the *pièces de conviction* of the Lagrange case. The corpse of M. Lagrange, pharmacist, was found in the cellar below his pharmacy, Place Beauvau, Paris, on Monday morning, October 7, 1879. His maid-servant lay dead beside him, and hard by was a 10-lb. iron pestle which (as the blood and hair on it testified) had been used to fracture the skulls of both. The crime had been committed in broad daylight (4.30 P.M.) the previous day. Arnold Walder, the indoor assistant, was plainly guilty of the crime, but disappeared on the Sunday afternoon and has never since been heard of. He is conjectured to have crossed the Atlantic. In six years' time the French Statute of Limitation puts him out of the reach of justice. The articles offered on Tuesday consisted of the pestle in question, a hatchet, a trunk, a pair of gloves, and a pair of studs.

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE IMITATIVE JAP.—Last month, in the Osaka Chihō Saibansho, Nonomura Shotaro (28), a perfumery dealer at Minami Kyuhojimachi, 4-chome, Osaka, was fined 50 yen on a charge of having affixed the trade-mark of a French firm to his own make of perfumery.

THE CHEMIST'S JUBILEE.—At Leipzig recently Dr. Willmar Schwabe celebrated the jubilee of his pharmaceutical career. Dr. Schwabe is the proprietor of the "Homœopathische Central Apotheke," Leipzig, which was found by him in 1866, and which has acquired a first-class reputation as a wholesale house for homœopathics in Germany and on the Continent. Dr. Schwabe has contributed generously to homœopathic literature. He is the author of a score of works on homœopathy, and his "Pharmacopœa Homœopathica Polyglotta" is known and used all over the world.

A JUBILEE DINNER.—At the Vienna Cafe, Melbourne, on September 18, Mr. F. S. Grimwade, M.L.C., entertained about 120 of the employés of Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co. at dinner to meet Mr. E. W. Grimwade, J.P., of London, who is on a tour through Australia and New Zealand. Mr. F. S. Grimwade said he had asked them there for two purposes, first to return the very kind welcome the employés had extended to him on his return from England, and, secondly, to meet his brother, Mr. E. W. Grimwade, of the firm of Grimwade, Ridley & Co., of London. It is just fifty years since Grimwade, Ridley & Co. started business relations with Australia.

A FORCED MARRIAGE.—The Sydney (N.S.W.) correspondent of the *Daily Mail* reports the arrest of a bride, her brother, and a mutual friend at the instigation of the newly-made husband on a charge of conspiracy by force and threats. Mr. Webb, who is described as a well-known chemist of Sydney, according to the story he told the police, was walking with a Miss Chessborough when a cab drew up and the two men alighted. Mr. Webb was assaulted, hustled into the cab, and driven into the city, Miss Chessborough and the two others accompanying him. He was kept a close prisoner until next morning, and was then compelled to marry the lady. The bride and bridegroom were seen off in a cab by the bride's brother, but as soon as they were out of sight Mr. Webb left the cab and his bride and reported the matter to the police.

EUROPEAN THERMAL AND MINERAL SPRINGS.—An association of proprietors of medicinal and mineral springs of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Switzerland held a conference recently at Coblenz, when a report was presented by a committee, containing proposals that mineral and thermal springs should be protected by legislation where their maintenance appears necessary on the ground of public welfare or of economic interest, and that an expert commission should be appointed to decide when this is the case. The scheme provides that a spring to which a protected area is granted must be maintained by the proprietor in the interests of public welfare, but if he neglects this duty the State is justified in dispossessing the owner. After discussing the scheme the conference adopted a resolution to ascertain the value of the financial investments in Prussian medicinal and mineral springs.

APOLLINARIS BRINGS PROSPERITY.—In an article in the *Cologne Gazette* treating of vine-culture and the wine-trade in the Ahr Valley, the economic importance of the Apollinaris Spring and of the Spa is incidentally made apparent. During 1880 there were 3,500 guests staying at the Spa, while now the number is 15,500. The advantage of this to the whole district is evident to every visitor to the Ahr Valley. The character of the Apollinaris Spring has not changed, and while for the first years the sale of the water did not experience any very considerable increase, and its name was little known, it has now, owing to its good qualities and the businesslike way in which it has been advertised, become the table-water of the world, and over twenty-nine millions of bottles and jugs are despatched annually. It is not at all improbable that the popularity of the Apollinaris Spring and Spa will continue to increase for some years to come.

DANISH NOTES.—A Danish pharmacist, Mr. Allan Bech Brondum, has been licensed by the Transvaal Government to open a pharmacy at Newlands, near Johannesburg.—The dispute between the Chemists' Association and the Chemists' Assistants' Association has been decided, the Court finding in favour of the chemists. The Chemists' Association has now entered upon a new agreement with the Assistants' Association, on the understanding that the latter will not appeal against the Court's decision, and the suggested scale of payment for pharmacists will remain in abeyance so long as the agreement continues.—In a paper, the *New Century*, published fortnightly, Mr. Marx Jantzen, a pharmacist, contributes an article called "Verona," dealing with the revolutionary students of Geneva. Mr. Jantzen, while studying in that city, appears to have come into the most intimate contact with a party of Russian students there with anarchist proclivities, and he gives a vivid picture of the life and aims of these students, and of their struggle with their paternal Government.—A new Act dealing with the examination of foodstuffs took effect in Denmark on October 1. It was hoped that drug-adulteration would also be included; but the Minister of Justice has stated that the Act is meant to deal only with comestibles, and pills and medicines generally can scarcely be brought under that category.—The Assistants' Association held their annual meeting at Copenhagen on October 14, with Mr. E. Dam in the chair. In his annual report Mr. Dam took the opportunity to chide the Danish pharmacists for not being so up to date as they might be. He recommended all assistants to seek experience and knowledge in foreign countries. The Association had under consideration a proposal of the Minister of Justice for the establishment of twenty-seven new pharmacies in Denmark, of which five are to be in Copenhagen. Many of the proposed pharmacies are already erected, and several others are building; but the general opinion was that none of the new pharmacies would give an income equal to the salary of an assistant. Mr. Dam drew attention to the fact that the Minister of Justice himself would not guarantee the income of the pharmacies. The Association is desirous of appointing a pharmacist secretary, to devote his time entirely to Association affairs, as there is too much work now in connection with the Association for the officers appointed to cope with. The proposal is to be further discussed and the officers for the year elected at the next meeting on November 2.

Personalities.

MR. A. E. BLACK, chemist, Crouch End Hill, N., is one of the candidates for the Crouch End Division of the Hornsey Borough Council.

MR. C. ARTHUR PEARSON is to preside at the annual dinner of the Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution on March 4, 1904, at the Hôtel Métropole.

DR. ALFRED S. GUBB, the editor of the *Medical Press* and the author of several medical text-books, who has for several years been in practice in Gower Street, W.C., is leaving this week for Mustapha Supérieur, Algiers, in order to practise there, but he will reside at Aix-les-Bains during the summer months. Dr. Gubb's personal qualification for practice in France include M.D. of the Paris University.

COLONEL SADLER, M.P., and Mrs. Sadler were with the party of British parliamentary representatives who visited Canada and the United States a few weeks ago. When off Newfoundland, on board the *Celtic*, on the return journey, during a high sea, Colonel Sadler slipped on the deck, dislocated his ankle, and broke his right leg. Colonel Sadler is a member of the firm of Sadler & Co. (Limited), chemical manufacturers, Middlesbrough.

ON October 24, Winnington, near Northwich, was bright with flags and gay with illuminations at the homecoming of Dr. Ludwig Mond, of Brunner, Mond & Co. (Limited). An illuminated address was presented to Dr. Mond congratulating him on his recovery from a prolonged illness, and rejoicing at his resumption of a brilliant career of scientific achievements. A procession was formed of 2,000 workers, several hundreds of whom carried flaming torches. The "Old Hundredth" was sung, and the park was illuminated.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive of the North British Branch was held on October 23 at 36 York Place, Edinburgh. Mr. D. B. Dott presided.

NOMINATION OF EXAMINERS.

The Executive went into committee to consider the report of the committee for the nomination of examiners. On resuming, it was moved by Mr. TOCHER, seconded by Mr. GILMOUR, and unanimously agreed to, that Frederick Arpen Bower (Regius Professor of Botany in the University of Glasgow), John Gibson (Professor of Chemistry in the Heriot-Watt College, Edinburgh), George Coull, D.Sc. (Edinburgh), Alexander Davidson (Montrose), David Brown Dott (Edinburgh), David Gilmour (Dunfermline), Martin Meldrum (Irvine), and John Wm. Sutherland (Glasgow) be nominated for election by the Council as members of the Board of Examiners for Scotland for the year 1904.

DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES.

The ASSISTANT-SECRETARY read the minutes of the General Purposes Committee, which were considered *seriatim*. It was intimated that all the vacancies in the office of divisional secretary had been filled up except two, and it was remitted to the committee to secure representatives for these two districts.

THE EVENING MEETINGS.

The Executive approved of the arrangement whereby the opening address of the session will be delivered by Mr. James Taylor Grant, B.Sc., lecturer on bacteriology in the Edinburgh School of Medicine, on "Bacterial Therapeutics, with Special Reference to its Pharmaceutical Aspects." The lecture is to be illustrated by lantern and practical demonstrations. It was also arranged that the day meeting should be in April, on the same day as the April meeting of the Executive.

Some discussion took place with regard to the present defective ventilation of the laboratories and hall, and the matter was remitted to the Chairman, the Assistant-Secretary, Mr. Nesbit, and Professor Gibson.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

The ASSISTANT-SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary intimating that the Council had resolved to proceed with the Pharmacy Bill in the next Session of Parliament, and that the officers of the Society would be taking steps to promote its passage through the House, and the Executive were invited to co-operate with the Council in anything that required to be done. The letter suggested that the Executive should name to the Council a Scotch member of Parliament who would back the Bill before it was again introduced.

Mr. GILMOUR suggested the name of Mr. John Morley.

Mr. MITCHELL said that Sir Robert Finlay, being a member of the Government, could not see his way to back the Bill, but he was highly in favour of it.

Mr. DOIG also mentioned the name of Dr. Farquharson as a very likely man to back it, and he was a member of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.

The matter was remitted to the committee.

WHOLESALE DEALING.

Mr. GILES suggested that the term "wholesale dealing" might be more clearly defined in the new Bill. To a certain extent what might be considered a wholesale transaction in some cases might be different in another case. He thought if something like this were added, "when sold to a qualified retailer," it might make the position much clearer than it was. It was in the ordinary course of wholesale dealing, which was very difficult to determine.

Mr. STORRAR said if Mr. Giles defined that he would oblige the Legislature very much. It had been a very difficult question.

Mr. HILL said they would be limiting their scope.

Mr. STORRAR said they could not limit it in the way they suggested.

Mr. GILES asked if an unqualified man or wholesale dealer sold potassium cyanide or some such substance as that to an analyst for the purposes of his business, would that be a wholesale transaction?

Mr. HILL: It would be.

Mr. GILES said it would be quite possible for poison to go into the hands of a man who had no technical knowledge of its property.

Mr. HILL said the analyst would have technical knowledge of its properties. He thought it would be unwise to attempt to define it. If it was left undefined it lay with the Court to define whether that was a wholesale transaction or not.

Mr. GILES said his view of a wholesale transaction would be when poisons were sold by a person who was not a qualified druggist.

Mr. DUNLOP understood that a wholesale dealer could only sell poisons to a retail chemist. The retailer could not evade the law by trying to make a wholesale transaction.

Mr. MABEN said there had been a very large amount of obfuscation over the wholesale question.

Mr. HILL said they had another definition of wholesale given in the Arsenic Act.

Mr. NESBIT said many persons who used to buy from wholesale houses now got their supplies direct from the manufacturer, and nothing was said about it.

Mr. HILL: The wholesale dealing is exempted, so far as selling goes, under Section 16.

After some further discussion, the subject was dropped.

INLAND REVENUE MATTERS.

Mr. CURRIE said it had been considered inadvisable in the present divided state of opinion that any approach should be made by the Pharmaceutical Council to the Inland Revenue authorities, the reason being that the Inland Revenue people themselves did not know where they were. Before the end of the year they would have a good many more considerations before them, and it was probable it would not be such a bad thing after all. The general opinion of the Council was that it was not their duty to give a decision.

Mr. DOIG said his view was that if they had taken up the question as the only representative body in the Kingdom, he was quite sure the Board of Inland Revenue would have listened very respectfully to them. They could have reasoned with them far more effectually than by written letters. There was a lack of knowledge on the part of the Inland Revenue, and he thought the Pharmaceutical Council would have done a very wise thing if they had made a strong representation, and it would have strengthened the position of the Society to a great extent all over the country.

Mr. CURRIE said Mr. Doig seemed to think it would have strengthened the position of the Society all over the country if the Council had taken a strong position. He was in the position to know that the opinion all over the country was very much divided on this very question. The preponderance of opinion was in favour of no action being taken by the Pharmaceutical Council.

Mr. GILES said he thought the Council had done right. It seemed to him that when the Inland Revenue took any action that was irksome or against the best interests of the chemist, then would be the time for the Council of the Society to interfere.

Mr. MABEN remarked that the trouble was that when a man got a demand for a penalty he must either pay or defend the case. Supposing he did defend it, and came off victorious, he got no expenses. People would not be bothered fighting a case at their own risk when they had a substantial Society to back them up.

Mr. CURRIE: You do not want the Society to fight these cases?

Mr. MABEN: I do not want that, but the thing has been allowed to drift. The Chemists' Defence Association evidently could not do anything. Mr. Maben went on to say that the Inland Revenue were very active in Glasgow at present. Very large numbers of articles had been labelled with labels which they were told would not be liable till the beginning of January. One case in particular was a label for corn-salve. One gentleman had a demand for a penalty of 10% because he sold a box of

corn-salve which had no instructions and nothing to recommend it in any shape or form, and it had no advertising-material to make him liable. Last week he went into a chemist's shop and took up a label which he believed was liable, and advised the chemist to alter the labels. The chemist replied that he was all right. But since that time he had informed him that he had got a notice from the Inland Revenue that he was liable in a penalty of 20*l*. because he had sold two articles. The liability was incurred because there was an advertisement on the carton box and he had used the possessive case. The representative of the Chemists' Defence Association was applied to, but he told him he was not prepared to take the case up. He did not suppose they would enter on any case in the present reading of the Revenue regulation.

Mr. BOA said they ought to take each case on its merits.

The CHAIRMAN said he sympathised very much with what Mr. DOIG had said. The action of the Inland Revenue was quite ill-advised in the public interest. The difficulty was for the Pharmaceutical Council to take any action in the matter which would be effective.

Mr. CURRIE said they would notice that the Inland Revenue were considering whether they could interfere when certain instructions were given on doctors' prescriptions—whether prescriptions containing a certain word must be stamped. That was absolutely absurd.

After some further discussion, Mr. DOIG said he did not propose to make a motion on the subject, but probably Mr. Storrar and Mr. Currie, as members of the Council, would do their best to see that the matter was kept to the front.

THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

An invitation having been given to those who were present at the Conference at Bristol to give in their report,

Mr. GILES, after referring to the meeting generally as being of an enjoyable character, said the papers read at the Conference were very educative and interesting, but the discussion in regard to some of them was not very fully taken advantage of. Speaking of the Federation meeting, he said they had a most instructive paper from Mr. Tocher of Peterhead on "Territorial Representation." It was a masterpiece, and must have involved an immense amount of work to collaborate all the facts and figures he laid before the Federation. He thought it was unfortunate that the work of the Federation was limited to one session.

Mr. KERR said he had enjoyed the Conference much better than the Dundee one, perhaps because he had nothing to do but listen. He agreed with Mr. Giles that there was too much to do in the time at the disposal of the Federation.

Mr. COWIE endorsed what had been said by Mr. Giles. He suggested that the papers for the Conference should be all printed beforehand and distributed among the members and held as read. It would give more time for discussion, and the members would have a better opportunity of properly discussing them.

The CHAIRMAN said the papers read at the Conference were often very long, and it would be an advantage if authors would study brevity.

CENTENARY OF THE PARIS SOCIETY.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that he had received a courteous invitation to attend the centenary celebrations of the Pharmaceutical Society of Paris, but, being unable to go, he had sent an apology. It was now too late to send a formal congratulatory message in time for the celebration; but this being the first meeting of the Executive since the invitation was received, the meeting authorised the Chairman to write in the name of the Executive a letter of congratulation to the President of the Society.

IMITATIONS OF CHLORODYNE.

Mr. MABEN drew attention to a bottle of liquid which was being sold for 1*l*., and labelled "Chlorodyne." The liquid appeared to be oil of peppermint and extract of liquorice, but without any chloroform or morphine, the ingredients of chlorodyne. He suggested that the Food and Drugs authorities should have their attention directed to preparations of this kind.

A general discussion took place, from which it appeared that there was a practice in some districts by certain vendors of supplying cheap imitations of well-known and powerful drugs, and that, while this was undoubtedly a public danger, it seemed difficult to devise any means of putting a stop to it.

Cajuput Oil.

The Characters and tests of the British Pharmacopœia 1898.

By JOHN C. UMNEY, F.C.S.

THE oils distilled from the leaves of various species of *melaleuca* which reach this country under the general title of cajuput oil seem to differ somewhat in physical character, and during the last few years it would appear there has been a tendency to a slightly less specific gravity than when I published a résumé of the leading features of the essential oils of trade (*C. & D.*, April 1, 1899). At that time it was the exception rather than the rule for the specific gravity of cajuput oil to fall below 0.922. Numbers of samples of oil which I have recently examined, sent direct to London from Singapore or to Amsterdam from Macassar, have had a specific gravity as low as 0.919, and without any indication of abstraction of cineol. One can hardly conceive that there should be any reason for such abstraction during recent years, when the relative values of cajuput oil and eucalyptus oil have been in favour of the former.

There has been a scarcity of cajuput oil during the past six months, and the attendant rise in price has been accompanied by the usual attempts at sophistication. The most obvious adulterant of the oil is, of course, cineol, although such adulterant in the samples that I have examined has in every instance taken the crude form of eucalyptus oil, in which oil that body is present in high proportion. Although I have not been able to determine by the phellandrene process the presence of this oil, because the oils containing high percentages of cineol are as a rule quite devoid of this substance, yet the presence of eucalyptus oil has been without difficulty detected by the nose. Most grossly adulterated samples have also been brought under my notice—the adulterants being petroleum products, and even artificial colouring with chlorophyll in one instance was resorted to.

Whether the low specific gravities of recent direct imports of oil from Macassar and Singapore are the result of a different species of *melaleuca* to that formerly used, or whether there is a difference in the method of distillation or rectification, is not certain; anyhow the percentage of cineol is lower than it was some years since, and this results in a corresponding fall in specific gravity.

The British Pharmacopœia 1893 gives as a range of specific gravity 0.922 to 0.930, whilst the United States Pharmacopœia prescribes a limit of 0.922 to 0.929, both of which would appear therefore to be somewhat too narrow a range. The specific gravities of other pharmacopœias are of some interest, and the table appended shows that there is a very considerable difference of opinion on the point.

Oil of Cajuput.

Pharmacopœia	Date of Issue	Sp. Gr.
United States ...	1890	0.922-0.929
Japanese ...	1891	0.910-0.930
Danish ...	1893	0.9 5-0.930
		(rectified) 0.910-0.915
Norwegian ...	1895	0.915-0.930
Russian ...	1902	0.915-0.930
Swiss...	1893	0.920-0.930

As the medicinal value of the oil is probably entirely dependent on cineol it would be a pity to fix a bottom limit for specific gravity lower than is absolutely necessary for normal oils, but I am of opinion that the specific gravity limits of the B.P. might be extended, say from 0.919 to 0.930.

Winter Session.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Royal Institution on Thursday evening, October 22, the President (Mr. R. C. Cowley) in the chair. The SECRETARY reported the donation of the *B.P.C. Year-book*, 1903.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM proposed that Mr. R. C. Cowley be elected President for another year, and Mr. A. S. BUCK seconded. The proposition was carried unanimously. Mr. COWLEY said it was a great honour to be elected to occupy the chair for another twelve months. He would endeavour to do his very best, as he had hitherto done, but he would expect each member of the Association to assist him to the best of his ability in the meetings of the forthcoming session, and he was sure they would do so.

The following gentlemen were duly elected members: Messrs. H. Kemp, H. W. Lenton, Gerald Lenton, J. Oliff, and Thos. F. Percival.

DEPOSIT IN CAMPHOR-WATER.

Mr. R. C. COWLEY showed a deposit which had formed in camphor-water. The water had been put into a clean bottle and corked down, and in the course of a few days a deposit formed, which seen under the microscope consisted of fungus. He asked if any member had experienced trouble with camphor-water. His sample was made according to the B.P., and the bottle was perfectly clean.

Mr. H. WYATT, jun., said he understood that camphor-water made according to the present B.P. deposited sooner than that prepared according to the old Pharmacopœia.

The PRESIDENT then called upon Mr. ANTHONY S. BUCK to read his notes on

THE MEDICINE STAMP-DUTY ACTS.

Mr. Buck's notes were of a general character. He related recent events, assuming that it was Mr. Glyn-Jones's ammoniated-quinine case which has led the authorities to interfere with the use of ailment-names. He pointed out how chemists stand in that matter as compared with confectioners and other unqualified shopkeepers, and proceeded to give the meeting some particulars about the conditions which the Board of Inland Revenue have laid down for the guidance of registered chemists who wish to take advantage of the exemption as to known, admitted, and approved remedies. He then took up the "general observations" of the Board on the Acts, briefly commenting upon the paragraphs *seriatim*. In the course of his remarks Mr. Buck said:

The last clause but one seems to me to be one which should never have been altered, but from the Board's letter of September 29* we find that this has occurred. The wording of this clause is:

"The Board recognise the necessity that exists for giving to a preparation such a designation or name as shall distinguish it from other medicines, and they do not attach any further meaning to such words as cough-mixture, liver-pills, corn-paint, &c. Labels so worded must contain no other reference to an ailment."

The finishing touch to these general observations is in these words: "The Board trust that the foregoing observations will enable their officers to restrict their purchases of medicines to cases in which there has been an actual infringement of the law."

Now, gentlemen, can you conceive a more generously worded order delivered to detectives, treating of the way in which they shall attempt to trap the chemists? Nothing said about slight slips—only actual infringements, otherwise clear attempts to defraud the revenue.

Mr. Buck next spoke of medicines labelled "for dispensing purposes only." He said:

These are mostly foreign, but by courtesy we are allowed also to have British medicines supplied unstamped for this purpose. I have rarely been more surprised than when I found out that if I took, say, 4 oz. of Hommel's hæmatogen from a stamped original bottle, I was not allowed to dispense it neat without putting a medicine-stamp on it according to value, although it had paid duty on the original bottle. I can quite understand that there would be a difficulty in proving whether the 4 oz. was taken from

a stamped or unstamped bottle, as in most pharmacies a bottle of each would be kept behind the dispensing-counter, and in many cases the scientific work be performed behind a screen.

I cannot distinguish between a packet of Steedman's powders being allowed after once stamping to be sold singly, and a portion of Angier's emulsion or aletris cordial from a duty-paid package not allowable without restamping.

Some of our local M.D.'s would be slightly annoyed if, when next ordering lactopeptin gr. 10, send twelve powders, this was dispensed with a 3d. medicine-stamp on the box. Would not it give the profession away, and perhaps lead to the chemist losing the doctor and patient as clients? We cannot, as things are now, afford to raise petty annoyance in dispensing, although this treatment would very likely have the effect of curing some practitioners of the habit of prescribing ready-made goods. The better plan would be to mention this fact to our supporters, and ask them to kindly add some harmless ingredient when prescribing these lines.

Mr. Buck finally referred to the publication of formulæ for known, admitted, and approved remedies; and the effect of the discussion in which Mr. GLYN-JONES, the PRESIDENT, Mr. STOCKDALE, and Mr. A. C. ABRAHAM took part, was that nothing should be done to interfere with the good relations at present existing between the medical profession and chemists, and that the publication by the Pharmaceutical Society of any further book of formulæ was undesirable.

Mr. R. C. COWLEY then read the following paper:

RELATIVE STRENGTHS OF THE DILUTE ACIDS AND ALKALINE SOLUTIONS OF THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

By R. C. Cowley and J. P. Catford.

The formulæ for preparing the dilute mineral acids are relics of the time when grain-weights and grain measures were used for volumetric determinations, and 6 fl. dr. were ordered to contain exactly the molecular weight in grains of HCl (36.5) and of HNO₃ (63) and half the molecular weight in grains of sulphuric and phosphoric acids—*i.e.*, 49 gr. in each case. Thus equal volumes of these four are equivalent in saturating-power—a fact that is obscured by the 1898 Pharmacopœias giving the equivalents of equal weights instead of equal volumes. Why the 6 fl. dr. were fixed upon was not apparent even in the previous Pharmacopœia.

None of the acids nor alkaline solutions were adjusted to the same or any simple proportional strength, so that amongst a dozen of them eight are irregular. This might be easily corrected and adjusted as follows:

Acid.	B.P., 1898		Suggested 10 c.c. should be equivalent to
	C.c.	Normal Solution	
Acetic. dil.	10	7.16	{ 7.5 of a normal solution 15 c.c.
Hydrobrom. dil.	10	13.4	
Hydrochlor. dil.	10	30.46	
Nitro-hydrochlor. dil. ...	10	26.75	{ 30 c.c. (or 3N)
Nitric. dil.	10	30.45	
Phosphoric. dil.	—	—	
Sulphuric. dil.	10	30.63	{ 50 c.c. (5N) 5 c.c. (N/2) 10 c.c. (normal)
Liq. ammoniæ	10	56.58	
Liq. calcis sacch.	10	6.64	
Liq. potassæ	10	11.1	

One fluid drachm liquor potassæ would equal 2 fl. dr. of liquor calcis saccharatus, 80 minims of acid. acetic. dil., 40 minims of acid. hydrobrom. dil., and 20 minims of acid. hydrochlor. dil., acid. nitric. dil., acid. sulphuric. dil., and acid. phosphoric. dil., and 12 minims of liquor ammoniæ.

Since they have all to conform to a volumetric test, they should be ordered to be made like any other volumetric standard solution—*i.e.*, rather stronger than is required, then titrated to find how much additional water is required.

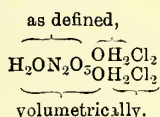
The formulæ clung to up to now may be idealistic, but are not practically sound.

Volatile substances in concentrated solution, such as ammonia and acetic acid, and hygroscopic ones like oil of vitriol, are inevitably weaker each time that some is removed from a Winchester.

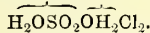
Diluted nitro hydrochloric acid seems to require considering apart from the other diluted mineral acids, since it is defined as containing nitrous acid and free chlorine in addition to the

* June 3 really (see *C. d. D.*, June 6, page 906).—EDITOR.

original ingredients. Such a paradoxical assertion from a less authoritative source might provoke scepticism. As it is, one may wonder whether the authors mean it in an ionic sense, and, if they had ventured to give the compound a chemical formula, would it have been something as follows?—



If so, this strikes a rich vein of new remedies. Why not add to the list a "Chlorinated Sulphurous Acid," of formula—



And, again, that pseudo-scientific preparation, spirit of nitrous ether, whose fickle character is perennially getting honest tradespeople into trouble—would not a judicious dose of aqua chlori fix it up as a staid, reliable preparation, with an unvarying volumetric standard?

For it is noteworthy that the volumetric test for nitro-hydrochloric acid requires the full original quantities of nitric and hydrochloric acids: calculated from the B.P. data, 4 grams should require 9.97 c.c. N/1 soda for the undecomposed acids, and the mixture is required to take "about 10 c.c." Where does the additional chlorine, &c., come from? And how are they proved to be there? The B.P. is discreetly silent in this respect. In the aqua regia of the alchemists the free chlorine asserted itself by its behaviour towards metallic gold; but the modern attenuated substitute yielded no such evidence to Dr. Tilden (B.P., 1868). This may be accounted for from the ionic point of view. The aqueous solution contains all the gaseous products in solution, and although, of course, chlorine combines with gold, yet equally of course nitrous acid reduces gold chloride to metal again—result *in statu quo ante*.

Until tests can be given furnishing positive proof, it would be better to drop the questionable definition and (if medical prescribers will have it) let it be brought into line with the other dilute mineral acids of 3N strength, so that 1 fl. dr. of it would be equivalent to 3 fl. dr. of normal liquor potassæ, or 10 c.c. of it would be equivalent to 3 grams of potassium bicarbonate.

Three years since Dr. Attfield, in his "Digest," suggested "an investigation of the rate at which the nitric and hydrochloric acids in the presence of water attack each other from day to day." As no one else appears to have responded, we have commenced it as regards the acidimetric test with standard alkali, and if any noteworthy results are obtained they will be communicated at the next meeting of this Association.

The discussion on this paper was postponed until the next meeting.

London Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of the Northern Branch of this Association was held in the Town Hall, Hackney, on October 22, Mr. P. H. Burton in the chair. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. R. B. Betty) announced the election of five new members to the Branch since the last meeting, and a cash balance in hand of 12l. 2s. 6d. The CHAIRMAN, in submitting the annual report, referred to the continued progress of the Branch, which was in great measure owing to the energy of their Secretary (Mr. Betty) and the kindness of Mr. Idris, who placed rooms and refreshments at their disposal whenever they desired to hold meetings, and contributed, further, a considerable amount of his own valuable time to the meetings of the Association. The Branch now has 140 members. The new committee was then elected as follows: Messrs. Foot, Betty, Hornby, Edwards, Page, Michie, Jenkin, Tice, and Tallantyre. The Pharmacy Bill was then referred to by Mr. J. C. PENTNEY, who reiterated his previous suggestion that the members of the Pharmaceutical Council should co-operate with members of the London Chemists' Association in interviewing members of Parliament, and asking their support for the Bill. A prominent member of Parliament had assured Mr. Pentney recently that the House of Commons would not pass any Bill that tended to establish a monopoly, and that the present Government intends to stick to office as long as possible, so that it seemed probable that the Bill would yet come before the present Parliament. Mr. BURTON advocated a propaganda amongst local political organisations. Mr. BETTY then read a paper describing the doings at the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Bristol, after which the retiring members of the committee were

thanked for their services. Mr. Betty was thanked for his paper and for his invaluable services to the Branch, and the meeting adjourned.

Plymouth Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL MEETING

of this Association was held on October 21 at 7 Whimble Street, Plymouth, Mr. C. J. Park in the chair.

Mr. R. F. ROPER read his report as Divisional Secretary, in which he gave an account of the work done in the town. There are seventy-one registered chemists in Plymouth, of whom more than 50 per cent., he said, were members of the Society. With reference to the protection of titles, he thought, notwithstanding opinions to the contrary, that some distinctive title should be devised which could be preserved from possible usurpation by stores and trading corporations without in any way interfering with other trades or professions or with public interest or convenience.

The publication of recipes in English by the *Pharmaceutical Journal* appeared to him a grave error, as it would enable persons other than chemists to put up preparations from the same formulae and induce an unwelcome competition. He did not think the explanation "that good English was preferable to bad Latin" was sufficient. Surely the Society had some means of preventing bad Latin being used. Mr. J. DAVY TURNEY proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Roper for the able manner in which he had carried out his duties, and regretted that he could not continue the office for another year. The vote was accorded with acclamation, and Mr. Roper, in reply, suggested the nomination of Mr. F. A. Goodwin in his stead.

(A later meeting is reported on page 730.)

Poor-law Dispensers' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at Surrey House, Victoria Embankment, W.C., on October 23. There was a good attendance of members, and the President (Mr. Montagu Smith) was in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read, two rules were altered, so that the amount of subscription is now 4s. per annum (2s. 6d. to the funds of the Association, and 1s. 6d. capitation fee to the National Poor-law Officers' Association), and the dates of meetings of the Association have been altered. The report of the Auditors (Mr. G. W. Lindsay and Mr. P. S. Thomas) was then taken, and the balance-sheet submitted by the HON. TREASURER (Mr. G. B. Walker). The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. T. D. Kelf) then reported that the numerical strength of the Association is increasing slowly and surely, and the past year of the reconstructed Association had been in all respects a most favourable one. The committees' attendances had been excellent, considering its members had to come from all corners of the metropolis. The "rules and objects," drawn up at the first committee, had worked very well. The register of *locum tenens* has been of great benefit to the members—one gentleman having taken duty at four or five infirmaries this summer. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. Montagu G. Smith (Lewisham Infirmary); Vice-President, Mr. G. W. Lindsay (Camberwell Infirmary); Treasurer, Mr. G. B. Walker (Greenwich Infirmary); Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. D. Kelf (Southwark Infirmary); Committee, Messrs. H. D. George (Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum), J. Hickman (Strand Union Dispensary), A. Howell (Dalston Dispensary), A. D. Rae (Shoreditch Infirmary), A. Smith (St. Pancras, North, Dispensary), J. J. Smith (Marylebone, North, Dispensary), W. H. Smith (Greenwich, Royal Hill, Dispensary), F. E. Trayner (Hackney Infirmary), and J. F. Turner (St. Pancras Infirmary). The PRESIDENT, in the course of a short address, said the most important business of the past year had been the affiliation of the P.L.D.A. with the National Poor-law Officers' Association. Despite adverse criticisms, this action, he was certain, tended to strengthen the position of the Association. The Association is well supported, several gentlemen who have lately obtained appointments under the Poor-law having promptly joined, and all the older members remain. The Association has been the means, in more than one instance, of placing the scale sanctioned by the L.G.B. before Guardians where appointments have been advertised at a lower initial salary than that

allowed, and good results have been obtained. In conclusion, the President, referring to the paragraph in the *C. & D.* of October 24, pages 676 and 677, said:

I notice that the *bête noir* of all metropolitan Poor-law officers has been again given as the reason for the inability of the L.G.B. to raise salaries—I refer to the Metropolitan Common Poor Fund. I have felt for some time past that the reply given by the inspector to the medical officers—to approach all the Boards of Guardians in the metropolis—was the only course open to us, if we wish to secure for ourselves a fuller recognition of our services and responsibilities.

The proceedings then terminated.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. D. Kelf, Ph.C., Southwark Infirmary, East Dulwich Grove, S.E.) will be glad to send to Poor-law dispensers, either in London or the provinces, a copy of the rules and objects of the Poor-law Dispensers' Association.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

At a meeting of the above Association, held at 73 Newman Street, W., on October 22, the President in the chair, Mr. S. C. G. TWEEDY read a paper on

THE PHARMACY AND MATERIA MEDICA OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

Happening to alight on an old volume by Dr. John Schroeder, a physician of great repute practising in London in the reign of James II., said Mr. Tweedy, I thought a few extracts would be interesting to this Association.

The paper consisted of selections from the animal materia medica mentioned in the book, several items being of great interest.

[Mr. Tweedy is, we think, in error in stating that Dr. John Schroeder practised in London. He was born at Frankfort-on-Main in 1600, and appears to have practised in Germany. He died in 1664. His chief work was the "Pharmacopœia Medico-Chymica sive Theosaurus Pharmacologicus," published in 1641. A translation, under the title of the "Complate Chymical Dispensatory," was published in London in 1659. It was Englished by W. Rowland. Dr. Schroeder also published "Zoologia," which is fairly well known through the translation by T. Bateson published in London in 1659. —Ed.]

Sunderland Chemists' Association.

THE annual and general meeting was held in the Grand Hotel in Bridge Street, Sunderland, on Tuesday evening, October 27, when there were present: Mr. R. H. Bell (presiding), Messrs. Mitchinson, Nimmo, Purse, jun., Chas. Ranken, G. P. Fairman, E. R. Cherrett, Ed. Harrison, Anderson, McLaren, J. G. Harrison, Thos. Walton, Purse, sen., and A. W. Golightly (Secretary). After the usual formal proceedings, Mr. BELL proposed that his Worship the Mayor of Sunderland (Alderman H. J. Turnbull, J.P.) be re-elected President. This was seconded by Mr. FAIRMAN, and carried unanimously. This is now the fourth year in succession that Mr. Turnbull has been President. Mr. R. H. Bell was elected Vice-President, Mr. Jno. Mitchinson Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. W. Golightly Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. R. Robinson and Ed. Harrison auditors.

The Council elected were as follows: Alderman John Harrison, Messrs. A. D. Purse, G. P. Fairman, C. Ranken, J. G. Harrison, E. R. Cherrett, and Mr. H. S. Corder. The date of the annual dinner was fixed for Wednesday, November 25. The remainder of the evening was devoted to the consideration of the Patent-medicine Stamps Acts, and it was decided to call another meeting to further consider the matter at an early date.

Sheffield Microscopical Society.

THE annual meeting was held on October 27 in the Literary and Philosophical Society Rooms, Leopold Street. Mr. T. Skelton Cole was in the chair.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Mr. T. Skelton Cole; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Wilkinson, Mr. Charles Hoole, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. B. W. Winder; Treasurer, Mr. C. F. Giddings; Hon.

Secretary, Mr. John Austen; Hon. Auditor, Mr. Bernard H. Hoole. These, with Dr. Hazleton and Messrs. Joseph Gibson and George Howard, form the Council.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.

THE monthly meeting was held at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, on Wednesday, October 28, Mr. Jabez A. Jones in the chair. There was a good attendance.

TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATION.

MR. A. HAGON, in accordance with notice, proposed a motion in favour of territorial representation. He spoke on the subject at considerable length, saying at the outset that it would be unwise to interfere with the machinery governing the drug-trade, unless it could be shown that a change would be for the benefit not merely of a section, but of the majority of the members. At present the Pharmaceutical Society represents its members only, and until it has enrolled on its books the majority of the persons engaged in the trade, he contended that the Society is not entitled to state that it represents the craft. Its power for usefulness depends upon its strength, and the first question that the opponents of the Society would ask would be, how far it justified its contention to represent the trade. Mr. Hagon then proceeded to discuss the position of the Society in relation to the trade, and the reasons why the majority have not seen their way to join the Society. He considered that territorial representation would help to do away with some of the indifference now displayed, and the Pharmaceutical Society would be placed on such a democratic basis as would ensure that none but the best and most progressive men in the districts represented would be sent to take a seat on the Council.

THE PRESIDENT, in seconding the motion, said he believed the scheme of Territorial Representation was one of the best things that had ever been put forward. It opened the door for the representation of Pharmacists on a council which should belong to the chemists of the country instead of only a very small minority.

MR. R. DRANE said he was entirely in favour of Territorial Representation as a principle, but the difficulty that presented itself to his mind was, that they were making this suggestion to a body of men, who are at present, and had always been, an oligarchy. What they were really doing was this—they were asking these gentlemen to step down, and allow the trade to step up. (Laughter.) He thought it should be to the general advantage of the trade if the Society did not exist. What was wanted was the union of the whole craft and their determination to attend to its interests. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Drane facetiously criticised the Society, concluding by saying it must interest itself in the general affairs of the trade, and not confine its attention to a hatful of the upper ranks of the craft.

MR. W. R. HOPKINS supplied the antidote to Mr. Drane's remarks, and suggested that there should be a canvass of all the chemists, asking them to sign a petition in favour of the Territorial scheme.

MR. R. MUMFORD was in sympathy with the resolution, and suggested that the best way in which to bring about the reform was to vote for members to the Council who were pledged to it. Mr. A. COLEMAN also spoke, and the motion was carried unanimously, also that a copy of it should be sent to every known pharmaceutical association in Great Britain, with a request that they would give it their serious consideration.

THE STAMPING OF MEDICINES

was the next subject on the agenda, and Mr. MUMFORD thought they had better leave it alone for the present. Mr. HAGON dissented, and suggested that it should go forth from them that they loyally accepted the ruling of Somerset House, and that they would not attempt to evade payment of any stamp-duty legally due. There was no difficulty in making their pills and mixtures conform to the recipes published. It was only necessary to attach a label stating the source of their formula. To have secret formulas was nothing but quackery. Let them publish them, and act honestly. It was essential that they should brush aside all these secret quack medicines. Let them go forth as advocating pure medicines and adopt published formula, and sell them in place of the injurious nostrums that were advertised in the

local papers. He thought they should strongly set their face against the idea of drugs being sold by anyone except chemists and druggists. All medicines intended for internal use ought to be handled only by men who were properly qualified, and understood them. Mr. DRANE said for the present they had better say nothing as an association on that subject. The Inland Revenue authorities had committed themselves to an *impasse*, and they had better leave them to get out of it as best they could.

The subject then dropped.

Public Dispensers' Association.

A MEETING was held at St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on the evening of October 28, over which Mr. W. Duff presided. Fourteen members were present.

THE CHAIRMAN regretted to report that Mr. Samuels wished to resign the secretaryship, owing to the pressure of private affairs. He was sure all members would regret this decision. Mr. Leadheater was appointed Secretary until the end of the year. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Samuels for the very efficient manner in which he had conducted his duties as Secretary for the past two years.

THE POTENTIAL M.P.

Mr. DUFF said that their President (Mr. T. H. W. Idris) had been selected as a candidate for the Parliamentary representation of Flintshire, and he thought the Association should take some notice of this fact.

Mr. NOAD CLARK proposed that the Secretary be instructed to write on behalf of the Association to Mr. Idris, congratulating him upon his selection as candidate for Flintshire, and expressing the hope that he would soon represent that constituency in the House of Commons. This was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then opened a discussion upon the question of

A TITLE FOR PUBLIC DISPENSERS.

The Association recognised that those public dispensers who are registered under the Pharmacy Acts are entitled to some name which would differentiate them from those who were not so registered, and the title "dispensing chemist" had been chosen. The main question was how to get this title officially recognised by the public authorities. He suggested three ways of accomplishing this: First, that each member should approach personally the medical officers and superintendents under whom he works, getting them to recognise this title. It is possible that all do not come into contact with their medical superintendents, but they were accessible, and a point should be made of seeing them upon this matter. Second, by asking the Pharmaceutical Society to help them. The title "dispensing chemist" is specifically mentioned in the Pharmacy Act, and they had a perfect right to ask the Society to help them to get this title recognised by the various public bodies who employ registered chemists as dispensers. Third, the suggestion which was made by their President (Mr. Idris) that the Association should arrange a conference of those members of public bodies who are chemists, or at any rate interested in pharmacy, with a view to getting the authorities they represent to recognise officially their suggested title, so that they might get rid of the odious term "dispenser." If the Association combined these three suggestions he thought they could get the matter settled, but it would be a question of time. He would leave it to the Association to decide whether the time was now ripe to take active steps, or whether it should be left to a future date.

The suggestions met with a good deal of criticism. Mr. WATKINS said that, as a hospital-dispenser, he could not see where the difficulty of calling themselves "dispensing chemists" came in. It was certainly a personal matter entirely, and as long as certain public bodies employed as dispensers men who are not registered under the Pharmacy Acts he did not see how they could publicly recognise the title "dispensing chemist" for the dispensers employed under their authority. Mr. WELFORD thought that the crux of the whole difficulty lay in the fact that the Poor-law authorities allow unqualified men to dispense poisons. While this practice continued, it would be a stumbling-block to the view they entertained, and he suggested that the

Local Government Board should be approached and urged to make it a rule that all dispensers under their authority should be qualified under the Pharmacy Acts. It was finally decided to leave the matter over for the present. This concluded the public business.

Thames Valley District Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of this session was held at the Kingston Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, on Wednesday evening, October 28, and attracted a record number of members. Mr. Alfred Higgs, J.P. (the President), occupied the chair, and amongst those also present were Mr. J. Parrott (vice-chairman), Mr. C. J. Palmer (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. F. Harvey (Hon. Secretary), and Messrs. Edwards (Kew), Clement (Hampton), Jones (Norwood), Pearke (Twickenham), Woolcock (Hounslow), Amore (Putney), Gould (Peddington), Evans (Putney), Bunker (Twickenham), Doe (Wimbledon), Evans (Mortlake), Blanchford (Richmond), Harris (Norhilton), G. O. Parrott (South London representative of Parke, Davis & Co.), Rawlings (Raynes Park), Turner, Walsley (representative of John Bell & Co.), Batty (Surbiton), Bowen, Carpenter, Gray, Kemp, and A. Leonard Higgs, jun.

The business, which was to be followed by the first social dinner of the Association, was somewhat formal.

A letter was read from the President, thanking the Association for its expression of sympathy with him and his family on the death of his wife, and for sending a floral tribute at her burial.

It was announced that the number of members was now between fifty and sixty, and the HON. SECRETARY read a list of the names of gentlemen willing to become new members, who were added to the list.

The only other business was a discussion on "Co-operative Buying," as to which many of those present expressed an opinion. This appeared to be divided. Several speakers expressed the belief that no scheme of co-operation could be advantageously worked in such a large area as that covered by the Association. It was suggested that each town should have a little scheme of its own and a distributing-centre of its own, and one speaker, more bold than the others, said the way to overcome all difficulties was to form a small limited-liability company amongst such members of the Association as desired to benefit by such a scheme, and that the benefits of the company should be confined to such members only. After discussion, however, in which Messrs. BUNKER, JONES, BETTY, PALMER, GOULD, WOOLCOCK, BOYNE, the SECRETARY, and the CHAIRMAN took part, a proposal that a committee should consider the desirability of forming a small limited-liability company was defeated, and it was decided that for the present members should notify to the Hon. Secretary what articles they stocked in large quantities and were willing to supply to other chemists, and the terms upon which they were prepared to do so. The company, joined by several others, then

SAT DOWN TO DINNER,

which was presided over by Mr. A. Higgs.

After dinner Mr. HIGGS proposed the loyal toasts, and Mr. R. A. Robinson, jun., proposed "The Thames Valley District Chemists' Association," to which the Chairman responded. He said without unity the chemists of the Thames Valley would never be able properly to protect their interests, and he commended what had been decided at the business meeting with reference to co-operative buying as a step in that direction, though he did not altogether approve of it. Still, by joining together and meeting together, as on that occasion, nothing but good could come of the efforts of the Association. Other toasts were "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. C. J. Palmer, and "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. F. Harvey (the hon. secretary), and responded to by Mr. R. H. Jones. Some capital harmony was rendered during the evening by Messrs. Blanchford, Kemp, Singleton, and others.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on October 28 at the Royal Hotel, Bradford. The chair was occupied by the President of the Association (Alderman H. Dunn), and there was a large attendance of members.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing Mr. S. R. Atkins, said they felt greatly honoured by the presence of a President of the Pharmaceutical Society, and especially one who enjoyed the distinction of having been connected with pharmacy for sixty years, and one who had been on the Council of the Society for twenty-six years or more. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT'S TALK.

Mr. ATKINS said he wished to talk in a friendly way to them on pharmaceutical topics, believing that many a difficult and knotty problem was best settled in such a manner. They would all feel that what remained now to be done in regard to the Pharmacy Bill was to push it forward through their parliamentary representatives when it was next introduced. He could tell them that the Law and Parliamentary Committee had had several important meetings lately, and they had decided to reintroduce the Bill exactly as it stood with one important exception, that exception making it quite clear to the medical profession and to the veterinary surgeons that the exemption under which they had practised the Pharmaceutical Society did not propose to interfere with. The effect of the new clause would be to entirely disarm the antagonism of the medical profession and of the College of Veterinary Surgeons. As to Clause 7, which would no doubt be the subject of a special fight when the Bill came to Committee, he might say that the qualifying clause for directors they had decided must stand precisely where it was; that whatever might happen in Committee or afterwards in the discussion in the House for present purposes, they were not prepared to modify that clause one iota. (Applause.) Alluding to the curriculum-clause, he said nothing could be more obvious to him than the urgent need of systematic training and education. Nothing was more painful to him as the Chairman of the Boards of Examiners than to see the sad slaughter which occurred in the examination-room. For years his conviction upon that question had been that nothing but systematic and prolonged training could remedy that evil. At present it was perfectly obvious that young men came up for examination who were conscious that they were quite unfit. Some of them came up as a preliminary canter to see what kind of thing the examination was; but the greater proportion were young men who were quite conscious of their unfitness for the test. Apprenticeship unfortunately had now lapsed into the hands of men who were often the least qualified to train. Apprentices were taken for the value of their labour or the amount of the premium, and they had the run of the shop, but actual systematic training was indeed a very small quantity. There were excellent provincial schools nowadays, he granted, but the candidates came for examination after only a very few months in the school. Upon the whole question of the Bill he urged that when the General Election came they should be most persistent in their interviewing of members of Parliament and candidates upon the Bill. Sitting at the table of the Mayor of Salisbury recently, he had the member for the division on one side and the candidate on the other side, and he secured promises from both; and one of these gentlemen said that he was interested in the question as a shareholder in a large company, but he felt after the explanation which had been given to him that whatever else should come within the dealings of the company, pharmacy should not. (Applause.) He (Mr. Atkins) assured them that they would be amazed if they knew how astonished members of Parliament were when they were told that companies, because they had contracted themselves outside of the Pharmacy Act, were able to do as companies what an individual could not do. Do not let them think of trying to do their work with their members in the excited atmosphere of the lobbies, where members were worried by all sorts of claimants, but let them educate members in their own constituencies. Going on to allude to the report of the Poisons Committee, he spoke of the absurdity of the two suggestions that the present means of distribution are insufficient, and that there is a difficulty about prices. He paid an eloquent tribute to the Minority Report of Mr. Walter Hills for its fairness and frankness. There was no information at present, he added, as to any intention in the direction of legislation, and they would all feel that even the Majority Report gave no justification for legislation, and it might be that the changes in

the Government and the departure of the Duke of Devonshire from the Cabinet would affect the matter; but he wished them to remember that their opponents on this question were absolutely sleepless in their activity, and it was impossible to foresee what legislation might be proposed. In the event of legislation being proposed, he begged them to resist it with all their energy, and he assured them that the chemists of other parts of the kingdom were looking to those large, sturdy, strenuous communities in Yorkshire and Lancashire to take a leading part in the resistance. (Loud applause.)

Upon the motion of Mr. WADDINGTON, seconded by Mr. R. W. SILSON, and supported by other members, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the President, and the meeting ended.

Plymouth Chemists' Association.

THE tenth annual meeting of this Association was held on October 28 at 7 Whimble Street, Plymouth, Mr. J. Davy Turney (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. C. J. Park, J. Cocks, R. T. Roper, F. Maitland, J. A. Lamble, F. A. Spear, J. G. Netting, J. Barge, F. A. Goodwin, J. Lamble, H. M. Morgan, and G. Fairweather (Hon. Secretary).

The HON. SECRETARY presented the

ANNUAL REPORT,

which reviewed the work of the past session. In the beginning of the session the chief item of interest was the anti-co-operative agitation. It was at first thought that the Association should join with the Local Traders' Federation in opposing the co-operative movement, but upon closer consideration this was deemed inadvisable. The Association was represented at the P.A.T.A. Convention by Messrs. R. F. Roper and C. T. Weary, and some correspondence afterwards ensued between Mr. C. T. Weary and Messrs. Oppenheimer & Co. relative to the selling-price of their specialities. Letters were sent to all the local members of Parliament drawing their attention to the Pharmacy Bill. Mr. Lockie, M.P., was interviewed, and promised his support. The chemists of the Three Towns contributed 15% to the Chemists' Defence Fund. Messrs. J. D. Turney and W. H. Woods represented the Association at the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Bristol. A telegram in the name of the Association was sent to the Secretary of State for War protesting against the proposed co-operative canteen scheme. Reference was also made to the presentation of the Association's prize of 10% to Mr. J. Maurice Treneer, the senior Bell scholar, and the social affairs of the Association, which, it was stated, have been more than usually successful this year.

The PRESIDENT referred to the report as a very satisfactory one. It was satisfactory to note that there was no diminution in the membership, which remained practically the same as last year. He thought the decision not to join with the federated traders in opposing the co-operative movement was a wise one. It was not that they were not in sympathy with the movement, but it was felt that their calling was a peculiar one, and differed very materially from the traders who had banded themselves together. Another, and perhaps more powerful fact was that quite one-half the energy of the Association during its existence had been directed to the same end. He thought that the P.A.T.A. had done most useful work, and the success that had attended their uphill efforts had been decided. The President also referred to the Pharmacy Bill and the decision to re-introduce it in the coming Session.

Mr. PARK said he would not vote for any Parliamentary candidate who would not promise to support the Pharmacy Bill. He believed the Bill was only opposed by those who had pecuniary interests in the matter.

Mr. ROPER thought the Pharmaceutical Society would have been wiser to have brought forward a Bill simply for the safeguarding of titles.

Mr. PARK did not think such a Bill would be successful, because the Government would consider that they were simply legislating for their own interests and not those of the public.

The matter then dropped.

NEW MEMBERS.

Messrs. H. C. S. Booth and W. Lambie were elected members.

FINANCE.

Mr. J. BARGE (Hon. Treasurer) presented

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

which showed that the subscriptions have amounted to 16*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and expenses to 15*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, a small balance remaining in hand.

Mr. COCKS commented on the large falling-off during recent years of assistant and junior members, who now only numbered six. He also asked whether any of the bonds were to be paid off.

Mr. MAITLAND moved that there be a standing order to pay off a 1*l.* bond each year.

This was carried, and the Treasurer's report was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. John Barge; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Condy U'Ren, S. Perkins, and F. Maitland; Committee, Messrs. R. F. Roper, F. W. Hunt, F. A. Spear, H. P. Hearder, C. J. Park, F. W. Broom, J. A. Lambie, M. Johnson, J. Cocks, F. Downing; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Goodwin; Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Fairweather; Hon. Auditors, Messrs. J. Foster and H. M. Morgan.

A vote of thanks to the retiring president concluded the meeting.

Royal Photographic Society.

At the first technical meeting in the new Session, held on October 27 at 66 Russell Square, W.C., Mr. A. J. Newton read a paper—prepared by himself and Mr. A. J. Bull—entitled

A COMPARISON OF ORTHOCHROMATIC PLATES.

By the term "orthochromatic plates," said the lecturer, they meant to refer to any plates that were sold as being more colour-sensitive than ordinary photographic plates. In making their "comparison" they had tested all, he believed, such plates of English make, most of those manufactured on the Continent, as well as many of the American plates. Electric light was found unsuitable for use in the experiments, and finally they decided to use ordinary gas with a Welsbach mantle. The Chapman-Jones plate-tester was employed, and development of the negatives was by factor, with glycin. The colour-sensitiveness of the various plates at four different stages of development was then shown by means of a lantern, in which the plates were used as slides, and comparison was made with the Chapman-Jones plate-tester and the spectrum.

A discussion followed the reading of the paper, the chairman remarking that although there was, speaking generally, a great similarity in the results given by the various plates as shown to them that evening, the differences were of the greatest importance to those working in the branch of photography.

Western Chemists' Association.

The following have been elected officers for the present session: President, Mr. J. W. Bowen; Vice-President, Mr. Frank A. Rogers; Treasurer, Mr. H. Cracknell; Secretary, Mr. W. J. I. Philp.

Trade Notes.

GLATTOLIN.—We have received a sample of "Glattolin" from the patentees, Dr. Max Lehmann & Co., 68 Basinghall Street, E.C. This article is intended for use in softening the rough edges of starched collars and cuffs. "Glattolin" is a little notched block of a substance which has much the appearance of hard paraffin. The edge of a rough collar is rubbed with it, and the sore neck which such a collar would otherwise give is prevented.

MALTOVA (LIMITED) inform us that "Maltova" is now protected under P.A.T.A. rules, at the face value of 1*s.* 6*d.* a bottle, instead of 1*s.* 5*d.*, as hitherto. This new arrangement takes place from November 1.

A COAL-TAR TOILET-SOAP has just been introduced by the Erasmic Company (Limited), 117 Oxford Street, W. It is a milled soap, of excellent body and purity of basis, with good odour, and put up in an attractive manner. It retails at 3½*d.* per tablet, or three in a box for 10*d.*

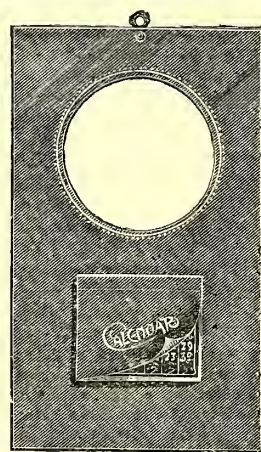
THE CAPE COLONIST who never uses soap to wash himself has been a godsend to the soap-manufacturers, by giving them something fresh to talk about and providing them with a dark background to the virtues of cleanliness. After an anti-"wash and catch cold" advertisement, Wright's coal-tar soap announcements emphasise the fact that this soap has for years been "superfatted" with lanoline.

SANGUINOSA is a remedy for anæmia which is being introduced to this country from the Continent. It is stated to be a herbal remedy, with iron present in an organic compound. The preparation is certainly pleasant to the taste, being like claret, but with a slightly ferruginous and bitter taste which suggests cinchona. Sanguinosa retails at 4*s.* 6*d.*, and is supplied to the trade by the Sanguinosa Company, 79 Mark Lane, E.C.

"THE MISUSE OF SOAP" paragraph in our last issue brings to us a reminder, in the form of a sample of "Dartring" lanoline soap, that this soap meets Mr. Balmanno Squire's requirements as to putting natural fat on the skin to replace what is taken off during the toilet, or, otherwise stated, "it contains no free alkali and does not deprive the skin of its natural protective oil." It is "superfatted" with lanoline.

MESSRS. HAWKER BROTHERS, pharmaceutical confectioners, 7 Denman Street, S.E., put up things in a very attractive manner. Two examples come to us this week. One is "Livelong" candy or dinner tablet, put up in a handsome box, and every two of the dainty tablets are wrapped in a piece of paper. Another is a lavender-coloured box full of crystallised eucalyptus-and-menthol pastilles, with the name blocked in silver. The pastilles are in layers, with a piece of tinfoiled board between which looks like a mirror. It always pays to put up a good article well. Customers appreciate style.

PHOTO-CALENDARS.—Messrs. George Houghton & Son (Limited), 83 and 89 High Holborn, W.C., have hit upon the idea of providing a mount for a photograph with a calendar. The illustration shows the combination. The openings are either circles or oblongs, and the colour of the mounts is grey or red. Photographic chemists should find no difficulty in introducing the photo-calendar mounts to their customers, as they are an attractive and pleasing variety of the usual run of Christmas and New Year's cards.



OPTICAL CATALOGUE.—The second section of the new price-list of Messrs. Raphael, Wheway & Redfern (Limited), 51 Clerkenwell Road, E.C., has just reached us. Like the first section, to which we referred a few months ago, the catalogue is an *édition de luxe*; the illustrating and printing are splendidly done, and the paper is highly finished. The present section deals with spectacle-, eyeglass-, and châtelaïne-cases, eyeglass-chains, cords, and hooks, trial cases, test-types and charts, ophthalmological instruments, lamps, tools, books, models and charts of the eye, eye-shades, showcases, and lorgnettes. The articles in the catalogue are not priced, a separate key giving prices being supplied to opticians.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS valued at 32,595*l.* were exported from Crete during 1902 compared with 41,450*l.* during 1901.

Scientific Progress.

American Colophony.—Tschirch and Studer communicated to the *Archiv der Pharmazie* a lengthy statement in regard to an investigation of American colophony, which incorporates a study of the constitution of abietic acid.—(*Archiv*, 1903, page 495.)

Acacia-flower Oils.—An exhaustive investigation on the essential oils of some of the acacia-flowers has been published by Walbaum (*Jour. Prakt. Chem.*, 1903, 235). The oil from the flowers of *Acacia Cavenia* has the following composition: Eugenol = 40 per cent. to 50 per cent., methyl salicylate 8 per cent.; bodies not of a phenolic nature 52 per cent. to 42 per cent. Among the latter bodies were found benzyl alcohol (about 20 per cent.), geraniol anisic aldehyde, eugenol methyl ether, linalol, decylic aldehyde, and a ketone of violet odour, probably ionone. From the oil of *Acacia Farnesiana* were separated benzaldehyde, methyl salicylate, benzyl alcohol, an aldehyde (probably decylic aldehyde) and a violet-smelling ketone. No eugenol was found.

Guttapercha.—Professor A. Tschirch has concluded a long and tedious research on guttapercha, the results of which are communicated to the *Archiv der Pharmazie*, 1903, page 491. The paper is much too long for adequate abstract reference, but we may say that it deals especially with sphaeritalban, alban, crystallised alban, and isopheritalban, as well as Oesterle's and Ramsay's alban. Sir William Ramsay carried the unsatisfactory chemistry of this subject somewhat further in a paper communicated to the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry last session, and Professor Tschirch now does the same. For example, Ramsay obtained alban of a greater degree of purity than those who preceded him; his product melting at between 201° and 204° C., whilst Tschirch's product melts at 228° C.

West Indian Bay Oil.—Investigations on the production of bay oil on the island of St. Thomas have been carried out by Professor Markoe, who has distilled 7,000 lbs. of leaves, mostly grown on that island, and describes his results as follows. The oil comes over in two portions, firstly a light oil floating on water, which comes over very rapidly, and then a heavy oil, coming over very slowly, and not easily separating from the water. The following fractions were obtained in one still run with 200 lbs. of leaves, each 20 pints of distillate being separated and the oil collected: No. 1 = 0.870, No. 2 = 0.930, No. 3 = 0.946, No. 4 = 0.964, No. 5 = 0.982, No. 6 = 0.990. The heavy oils separated in fraction had specific gravities 1.023, 1.035, and 1.037. These results are in accord with our knowledge of bay oil, and justify the reduction of the U.S.P. limit of 1.040, to 0.975 to 0.990.

The Determination of Strychnine.—Smith (*American Journal of Pharmacy*, 1903, 253) states the following process gives excellent results in nux-vomica assays. It is based on Keller's original process, with modifications by the author. The bases are extracted in any of the usual methods from about 10 grams of the drug, and the mixed alkaloids are dissolved in 15 c.c. of 3 per-cent. sulphuric acid, with the aid of gentle heat. When the solution is cold, 3 c.c. of nitric acid (containing 50 per cent. of 1.420 acid) are added. The whole is then shaken for ten minutes, and then transferred to a separator with 25 c.c. of 10-per-cent. NaOH. The alkaline mixture is now extracted with chloroform three times. The chloroform solution is evaporated, adding a little amyl alcohol to prevent the strychnine decupulating in the final stage of the drying, and the residue of strychnine is dried at 140° for two hours and weighed.

Codeine.—Ach and Knorr (*Berichte*, 1903, 3067) publish the results of an investigation dealing with the oxidation products of codeine, and several new bodies are described. The object of the research was to attempt to throw further light on the constitution of morphine. The principal product of the careful oxidation of codeine is oxycodine, when chromic acid is used at a low temperature for the oxidation. Oxycodine ($C_{18}H_{21}NO_4$) melts at 207° to 208° C. It forms a well-defined diacetyl derivative, and therefore contains two hydroxy groups. If codeine be oxidised with potassium permanganate in acetone solution, codeinone is obtained. This body has the formula $C_{18}H_{19}NO_5$, and melts at 185° to 186°. It stands to codeine in the relation of a ketone to an alcohol. It forms a peculiar nitro-derivative of the formula $C_{18}H_{18}N_2O_6$. Codeinone is powerfully laevorotatory, $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -205^\circ$. It forms numerous well-defined compounds, and its study is being carried on with a view to throwing further light on the relations of this group of alkaloids.

MR. T. SAINT, chemist and druggist, has taken over the old-established business of the late Mr. T. H. Jenkins, at 42 High Street, Stone, Staffs. The business will be carried on under the title of "T. H. Jenkins & Co."

The Kaleidoscope.



Monsieur le President

(With apologies to Fifi—and her Bridesmaids.)

The President he trips to France,
In a graceful man-naire,
Our Paris brethren to entrance
Wis ze courtly man-naire.
Now I think you must confess, Messieurs,
That a sight it was to see
Ze President from Grande Bretagne
High-jinking in Paree.

Chorus

Oh, ze President so gay
Captures Paris in a day,
Wis ze tactful leetle way he has of talking.
When across ze Straits he go,
He put on his chain—jes so—
And around the Boulevards he goes a-walking.

Ze President our friends embrace
In a cordial man-naire;
His moustache curls with easy grace
In ze prepaire man-naire;
And I'm sure you will admit, Messieurs,
That it warmed your hearts to see
M. Atkins (Monsieur Idris, too)
High-jinking in Paree.

Chorus.

Oh, our polished President,
What a jolly time he spent
When off to gay Paree he went a-prancing
On his mission sociale,
Aiding l'entente cordiale,
Wis his suave and subtle eloquence entrancing.

Or wine-les, 347 tons were shipped from Crete last year, of which Austria-Hungary absorbed 289 tons.

Observations and Reflections.

BY XRAYSER.

French Pharmaceutical History,

which came so prominently to the front last week at the Centenary of the Paris Society of Pharmacy, is peculiarly interesting, and there is a lot of it. The feature of the ancient history of French pharmacy which distinguishes it from our own is the long record of the lives and deeds of our common predecessors, the apothecaries. As was the case here, the French apothecaries and the grocers were originally associated in a single guild, and the separation of the two bodies was not finally effected in France till the reign of Louis XVI., a little before the Revolution. But there had been constant friction for centuries, and by numerous royal edicts the apothecaries had gradually acquired special privileges. In England they employed their liberty in plotting to supplant the doctors, whose factotums they were supposed to be, and all the information we have of them in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries exhibit them in a sordid struggle to cling to the profits of both medicine and pharmacy. They did absolutely nothing in those 200 years to advance pharmacy, and they were dispossessed of its practice by the chemists and druggists without a sigh of regret from any section of society.

The French Apothecaries,

on the other hand, were the honoured ancestors of present-day pharmaciens. They fulfilled their duties creditably, produced many men who added to the world's store of knowledge, and steadily advanced the dignity of their calling. The transmutation of the apothecaries into pharmaciens took place in the course of the eighteenth century, but it was merely the substitution of one title for the other. The exact time when it occurred cannot be definitely fixed. The earliest recognition of the "fait et estat d'espicerie et d'appotecarerie" is found in an edict of Charles VIII. dated 1484. With spicery and "appotecarerie" were associated in that edict working in wax and the preparation of confitures of sugar, and Charles recognising that it was very expedient, nay necessary, that persons to whom such important duties were entrusted should be sage, expert, specially qualified, and familiar with their work, did "say, declare, statuate, and ordain, and by the tenour of these presents, by our certain science, special grace, full power, and royal authority did issue an edict," which was to be irrevocable, that all such persons should serve a four years' apprenticeship, and undergo a certain examination especially in demonstrating their ability to make the things of their trade.

Other Royal Edicts

referring to apothecaries were issued by Louis XIII., Francis I., Henri III., Francis II., Charles IX., Henri IV., Louis XIV., and Louis XVI. One signed by Louis XIII. provided, among other things, that the widow of an apothecary could carry on his business with the aid of an assistant approved by the Council of the Masters. Perhaps a knowledge of this fact will induce more respect for our widows' clause. A poison-register first appears in an edict of Louis XIV. dated 1682, and by another issued by that monarch the right to practise pharmacy was forbidden to persons professing the reformed religion. This sent the two famous apothecaries Moses Charas and Nicholas Lemery into England.

The Revolutionary Epoch

was naturally the period dwelt upon principally by the orators of the centenary, and it was then that French pharmacy won its greatest triumph. The Abbé Siéyès was asked what he did during the Terror. "I lived," he replied. It was a respectable achievement for a man who had been exceptionally prominent. But French pharmacy did more than live through the Revolution—it flourished. The revocation, after six weeks' experience, of the decree of the National Assembly which made pharmacy free to everybody, was, perhaps, the most notable triumph our profession ever won. In the forthcoming history to which M. Guignard alluded full details of this episode will, I hope, be given. The abuses which led to the revocation must have been rather bad to have influenced the National Assembly to grant exceptional treatment to pharmacy. Another story which might be exactly verified is the alleged message to Vauquelin, also quoted by M. Guignard, "Go and find saltpetre, or the guillotine!" Was that message ever sent, and, if it was, was it sent to Vauquelin? This chemist was at the time Fourcroy's laboratory lieutenant, and Fourcroy was himself a member of the Committee of Public Safety. The chemist who made gunpowder for the Convention was Chaptal. He was formally appointed, and there was no occasion to threaten him. The collection of saltpetre from stables and sheep-folds had been a practice of the French Government for many years, and the methods had only lately been vastly improved by Lavoisier. It is difficult to see what there was for Vauquelin to do in this matter.

The Pharmaciens of 1803,

the men who had lived through the Terror, who had safely reached "Germinal year XI.," and who were then courting the First Consul, were certainly a remarkable group. Parmentier, who had conquered the national prejudice against potatoes; Vauquelin, the discoverer of chromium; Pelletier and Caventou, who first isolated quinine; Robiquet, who contributed largely to the analysis of opium; Chaptal, Brongniart, Bayen, Serullas, and others formed a notable group. They were nationally as well as pharmaceutically famous. Perhaps the mists of a century may have magnified in some degree their merits; but I cannot feel sure that with all our modern advantages, schools, societies, centenaries, and champagne included, France could match that party of pharmacists of the year XI., not even with the co-operation of Great Britain and America.

The Two Failures

of the prosecution in Pharmacy Act cases reported last week raise rather important points. The Sheriff-Substitute at Hamilton rejected the essential evidence of the Assistant-Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, because he declined to state the source of his first information about the alleged infringement of the Act by the defendant. The complaint or information which Mr. Hill very properly refused to disclose was clearly prior to the transaction which was the subject of the action, and it is impossible to imagine how details concerning it could help the Court to arrive at a decision. It may be assumed that the question will be submitted to a higher Court, and in that case it is likely that the Sheriff-Substitute will have the opportunity of biting his lips again. The objection sustained at Leeds was rather more subtle. Judge Greenhow seemed to be satisfied that the representative of the Registrar had authority to sue, but in his opinion the authority he held did not entitle him to sue for possible future infringements of the Pharmacy Act. This is a technical oversight which the Judge, I should think, correctly decided, but which need have no practical effect, as it can easily be avoided in future.

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Editorial Comments.

Organs or Parts of the Body.

A Comprehensive Release.

25994 S.
1903.

Inland Revenue,
Somerset House,
London, W.C.,
28th October, 1903.

Sir,—With reference to the recent decision in the case of
Ransom v. Sanguinetti, I am directed by the Board of Inland
Revenue to acquaint you that they do not now consider that
the mention merely of an organ or part of the human body of
itself renders a preparation liable to medicine stamp-duty.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. BARTLETT,

Assistant Secretary.

The Editor,

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
42 Cannon Street.

THERE is a disposition in some quarters to think that the
Inland Revenue authorities are playing for a fall in medicine-
stamp law administration; but the above letter is excellent
evidence to the contrary, as it proves that the Board are
willing to give careful consideration to views respecting the
administration of the law which differ from their own.
There has long been doubt as to whether mention of an
organ of the human body or part thereof in describing a
medicine was contemplated by the Legislature when they
framed the general charge of duty. That charge is upon
medicines "to be used or applied . . . for the prevention,
cure, or relief of any disorder or complaint incident to or in
anywise affecting the human body." In a circular-letter to
their officers (C. & D., August 1, 1903, page 206) the Board
showed that they were to continue their old policy by stating
that such titles as "Liver-pills" would be chargeable
equally with those bearing ailment-names. It is an
open secret that the Chemists' Defence Association,
following a public statement by Mr. Cyril Kirby, their
solicitor, intended, when the interpretation was enforced,

Write

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after December 31 to challenge it in court. In the meantime an Association of Wholesale Druggists and Manufacturers of Medicinal Preparations has been formed, and a deputation from that body had an interview with the authorities on September 23, when they submitted arguments in favour of the view that organs of the body should not be regarded as equivalent to ailments. They laid before the Board evidence of the extent to which the "penny trade" would be hampered if the old interpretation is continued, and the authorities promised careful consideration of the whole matter (*C. & D.*, September 26, page 540). The change in the administration is the result. As we read the letter, it simply means that medicines which have titles like "Liver-pills" will not come within the general charge of duty if they are not made dutiable on any other ground, such as claim to proprietary rights or recommendation for the cure or relief of an ailment; consequently such medicines may be sold by anybody, chemist or not, licensed medicine-vendor or not. The extent to which the new interpretation is applicable may be judged by the following list of names which are in common use:

Blood-mixture	Liver-pills
Blood Complexion and Tonic Pills	Liver-ionic
Blood-pills	Liver and Kidney Mixture
Blood and Stomach Pills	Liver and Kidney Tonic
Brain and Nerve Tonic	Liver and Stomach Mixture
Chest-liniment	Liver and Stomach Pills
Cooling and Stomach Powders	Liver and Stomach Tonic
Digestive, Head and Stomach Pills	Lung Balsam
Digestive and Liver Tonic	Nerve-mixture
Ear-drops	Nerve-pills
Eye-lotion	Nerve-powders
Eye-ointment	Nerve-ionic
Gastric-tablets	Nipple-lotion
Head-pills	Skin-lotion
Head and Liver Pills	Skin-ointment
Head and Stomach Pills	Stomach-mixture
Head, Stomach, and Liver Pills	Stomach-pills
Kidney-mixture	Stomach-powders
Kidney-pills	Stomach and Liver Mixture
Kidney-plasters	Stomach and Liver Pills
Kidney-tablets	Throat-gargle
Kidney and Liver Tonic	Throat-gargle and Mouth-wash
Liver-lozenges	Throat and Chest Liniment
Liver-mixture	Throat-lozenges
Tonic liver-mixture	Throat-mixture
Liver-granules	Throat-pastilles
Liver-pearls	Throat-pigment
	Throat-tablet
	Tooth-essence

The above list does not include any adjectival forms of organs of the body, or words such as "Female," which have been held to make medicines dutiable, because the strict letter of the Board's communication goes no further than the names of the organs. We would suggest that adjectival forms which imply nothing more than the subject forms should be included in the interpretation. Among these are:

Bronchial Balsam	Hepatic Pills
Bronchial Elixir	Infants' Friend
Bronchial Lozenges	Infants' Mixtures
Bronchial Glycerin Lozenges	Infants' Powders
Bronchial Mixtures	Lung and Bronchial Syrup
Bronchial Pastilles	Nervine Essence
Bronchial and Throat Tablets	Nervine Tonic
Children's Powders	Stomachic Mixture, &c.
Female Mixture	Teething-powders, &c.
Female Pills	Uterine Tonic

There are, on the other hand, titles which go further than the more descriptive "Liver-pills." Amongst them are:

Blood-purifiers	Lung-balm
Blood-purifying Ovals	Pectoral Mixtures, &c.
Blood-purifying Pills	Pulmonic Elixir
Liver-cleanser	Skin and Blood Purifiers
Liver-invigorator	

These imply either relief or conditions of the body which may not unreasonably be said to be disorders or complaints. It will not be wise to use these last titles or any others of a similar nature until some authoritative statement in respect to them is published.

Apothecaries' Assistants.

AN unsuccessful attempt has been made at Bradford to give effect to a contention that an apothecary's assistant is an apothecary within the meaning of Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act. Judge Bompas, K.C., made short work of the contention, and set it aside almost contemptuously. There was more impudence than wisdom in the contention, when the fact is borne in mind that hitherto the claim made in England in respect to apothecaries' assistants has been on behalf of those who have obtained from the Society of Apothecaries the certificate which they are entitled to give under the 1815 Act, after examination, to any person desirous of acting as an assistant to any apothecary in compounding or dispensing medicines. No one outside Bradford has dreamt of treating seriously the attempt to rank the Dublin assistantship as being known, admitted, and approved on this side of St. George's Channel. The English assistantship is on a different footing altogether; but throughout the whole of the 1815 Act there is a clear distinction between apothecaries or licentiates of the Society and their assistants. The Medical Acts refer solely to the registration of licentiates, assistants being no more recognised by them than are music-hall singers; while the Pharmacy Act, Section 16, refers to the legally qualified apothecary whose business is not to be interfered with by the preceding fifteen sections. The Apothecaries Act Amendment Act of 1874 maintains the distinction between persons who practise as apothecaries and those who are assistants to apothecaries; and the Society of Apothecaries itself makes a point of the fact that the assistants' certificate which it grants "does not convey the right to assume any title on the part of the person to whom it is granted." The only right which assistants to apothecaries can possibly have under the Pharmacy Act, 1868, goes no further than the provisions in the 1815 Act, which are to act as an assistant to any apothecary in England and Wales in compounding or dispensing medicines, and any person who acts as an assistant to any apothecary in that capacity without the assistants' certificate is liable to a penalty of 5*l*. The impudence of the Bradford contention arises from the fact that the defendant in the case decided there on Tuesday does not hold the apothecaries' assistants' certificate which is valid in England and Wales, but one that is granted under an "Act for the more effectually preserving the health of His Majesty's subjects, for erecting an Apothecaries' Hall in the City of Dublin, and regulating the profession of an apothecary throughout the Kingdom of Ireland." It is 31 George III., c. 34. The Act was passed in consequence of a petition by the Master, Wardens, and commonalty of the Corporation of Apothecaries, and other apothecaries of the city of Dublin, and it provides, *inter alia*, that after June 24, 1791, no apprentice, foreman, or shopman to any apothecary throughout the Kingdom of Ireland is to be received, taken, indented, or employed until he shall be examined by the governor, or deputy-governor and directors of the Apothecaries' Hall at Dublin. The whole Act refers to Ireland, and no place else. We presume that the solicitor for the defence would not have seriously urged that the apothecary's assistant's certificate which the defendant held exempted him, had he (the solicitor) known that it was the Dublin one. Presumably the Mr. Charles Forshaw whose name was mentioned in the case is the dentist of that name who has been endeavouring to unite apothecaries' assistants in the belief that they are apothecaries; and as he is the son of the proprietor of the business in which the defendant is employed as an assistant, it is not unreasonable to suppose that this case may be regarded as a test of his

assertions in respect to the status of apothecaries' assistants. It is, perhaps, farcical that the heavy machinery of the law should be called in to squash a rather feeble legal technicality, but it has to be done sometimes, and this is one of the occasions.

Pharmacy in Parliament.

Mr. T. H. W. Idris, F.C.S., President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, has been selected as Liberal candidate for the Flint Boroughs, the representation of which is to be vacated at the next election by Mr. J. Herbert Lewis, who is to stand for Flintshire in place of Mr. Samuel Smith. The Flint Boroughs seat seems to be a sure one for Mr. Idris, as Mr. Lewis was returned at the last election by a majority of 347 in a total vote of 3,173. It will be an immense advantage to British pharmacy to have Mr. Idris in Parliament; we need direct representation there. Talking over the telephone with Mr. Idris about the matter, he said that during his recent visit to Paris he found that there are six pharmacists in the Chamber of Deputies, and why should there not be the same in this country? With that we agree; but the difficulty is to get the men with the time and the political influence. The following half-dozen would represent all shades of political opinion, and each is a man with political influence: Sir James H. Haslett (now in the House), Mr. Idris, Mr. Edward Evans, Colonel Clifford Probyn, Mr. R. A. Robinson, and Mr. Goddard Clarke—three for each side of the House. Mr. Glyn-Jones is safe for a Welsh seat whenever he wants it, and by the time he is ready for it, others of the younger generation should be prepared to seek parliamentary honours.

Better Late than Never.

It may be remembered that in our issue of March 21 we strongly protested against the action of the Board of Inland Revenue in taking proceedings against Mr. George Crawshaw, pharmaceutical chemist, Headingley, for selling unstamped known, admitted, and approved remedies the uses of which he stated in a price-list and family guide. Our point was that the Board should not have taken proceedings pending the decision of the King's Bench Division in the appeal which they made against Mr. Dickinson's judgment on this matter. The Stipendiary Magistrate of Leeds held the same view apparently, for he adjourned the case *sine die* pending the High Court decision. He has not been called upon to give the inevitable verdict against the Board, for last week Mr. Crawshaw received a communication from Somerset House announcing that the Board had decided to withdraw the informations.

Wholesalers and Exemption 3.

In our correspondence section Mr. John C. Umney, writing as a wholesale druggist, discusses the application of the Section 3 of the 1802 Medicine-stamp Act to the dealings between manufacturers and registered chemists in known, admitted, and approved remedies put up ready for sale. While considering that the strict and literal application of the exemption would give manufacturers some annoyance, Mr. Umney shows that the difficulty can be got round, but at the best the literal application would restore the absurd position that existed prior to the High Court decision. The question which the combined voice of the wholesale trade should assist in settling is whether they should approach the Board of Inland Revenue by deputation or otherwise, or wait the action of the Board, and, if litigious, to meet it. Perfect frankness on both sides will best serve public interests, and we think this is one of those doubtful matters upon which the Board have in the past wisely granted what are known as concessions—that is, when the revenue has not been imperilled by giving effect to a trade or lay view of a

legal doubt; they have adopted such view until the Courts have ruled to the contrary. Ailment-names are a good example, and we suggest that this is another in which they might wisely rule that when a manufacturer supplies to persons who come within Exemption 3 medicines included in the exemption and labelled with the name and address of the exempted person who is to retail them to the public, the medicines need not be stamped.

Standard Sieves.

Professor J. P. Remington has done an exceedingly useful service to pharmacists by ascertaining that so-called standard sieves, upon which the fineness of powders depends have not been standards at all. For example, a No. 80 sieve has eighty meshes per linear inch; but the United States Pharmacopœia does not prescribe the size of the wire, and Professor Remington has found that the wire as used by sieve-makers varies in thickness. The British Pharmacopœia permits the same complication, the definition being as follows:

Different degrees of coarseness or fineness of the powders of drugs are distinguished by numbers, such as No. 20 or No. 60, which indicates the number of parallel wires of ordinary thickness contained within a linear inch, in either transverse direction, of the sieves employed by pharmacists.

The lack of constancy in apparatus which is intended to ensure constancy may account for many honest variations, and Professor Remington's note in the *American Journal of Pharmacy* for October should be recorded by the B.P. authorities. He has succeeded in getting the leading sieve-manufacturers to adopt the following standards for the different meshes of sieves:

No. 24 wire for 12 mesh	No. 33 wire for 40 mesh
No. 28 wire for 20 mesh	No. 35 wire for 50 mesh
No. 31 wire for 30 mesh	No. 38 wire for 80 mesh

These grades represent what is usually sent on orders, and we agree with Professor Remington that it is desirable to establish a national standard. The above should serve as well as any other, and it is advisable that all Pharmacopœias should adopt the same standards in this matter.

New Companies & Company News.

EDMONTON MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, analysts, exporters, importers, shippers, engineers, merchants, and dealers in metals and metal goods, &c. The first directors are H. V. Rudston-Read, A. J. Campbell, G. C. Agaet, and J. W. Orde. Registered office, Broad Street Avenue, E.C. 1.

W. R. ROSS (LIMITED).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 750*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalts, licensed grocers, wholesale and retail dealers in spirits, wines, or other liquors, &c., and in particular to take over the business carried on as "W. R. Ross" at 48 High Street, Hawick. The first directors are not named. Qualification, 10*l.* Registered office, 48 High Street, Hawick.

INTERNATIONAL KORKIT SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire any interests or rights in an invention known as the "Korkit" process for the improvements of cork and of any apparatus therefor, with a view thereto to adopt an agreement with H. B. Hebling, F. W. Passmore, and G. F. Wetherman, and to carry on the business of cork dealers, importers, and manufacturers, manufacturing an consulting chemists, makers of and dealers in proprietary articles, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are H. B. Hebling, F. W. Passmore, and G. Wetherman. Qualification, 50*l.* Registered office, 63 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

JOHN COLLIER & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with Mary Collier and G. H. Lawford for the acquisition of the business of soap-manufacturers and oil-extractors carried on by them at Liversidge, Yorks, and elsewhere as "John Collier & Co.," and to carry on the said business and that of pharmaceutical, manufacturing, and general chemists and druggists, manufacturers of and dealers in toilet-requisites of all kinds, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are G. H. Lawford and J. H. Collier. Qualification, 500 shares. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, Valley House, Liversidge, Yorks.

JOHN H. FIELDER & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 17 shares. Objects: To acquire and take over as going concerns the business of oil and colour merchants, grocers, varnish and enamel manufacturers, oil refiners, white lead and glass merchants, &c., recently carried on by the late J. H. Fuller, sen., and now by his executors, at 52 Minster Road, Reading, and the business and trade-marks of the "Marpedo" Compound Paint Company, recently carried on by the said J. H. Fuller, deceased, and now by J. H. Fuller, jun., at Minster Mills, Reading, and to carry on the same and the business of dealers in patent medicines, drugs, and druggists' sundries, mineral-water merchants, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. H. Fuller (managing director), W. A. Fuller, G. L. Baker, and W. Davis. Qualification, 50*l.* Registered office, 52 Minster Road, Reading.

INTERNATIONAL PLASMON (LIMITED).—The report of the directors for the year ended June 30 states that the year's trading shows a profit of 9,351*l.* The directors now recommend a final dividend of 2½ per cent., making 5 per cent. for the year, leaving 2,571*l.* to be carried forward. Since the date of the balance-sheet a syndicate called the Digestible Tea Syndicate (Limited) has been formed for the purpose of introducing Plasmon tea upon the market. This is now a going concern, and the company owns a proportion of the fully paid-up shares.

ANGLO-SICILIAN SULPHUR COMPANY (LIMITED).—At the annual meeting held at Winchester House, E.C., on October 23, Mr. W. T. Brand (the Chairman), in moving the declaration of a dividend of 6 per cent. (see *C. & D.*, October 17, page 659), announced that the export of sulphur from Sicily had been larger, being 482,554 tons during the financial year, as against 432,895 tons last year. The production had been 487,168 tons, as against 499,000 tons last year, and the stocks were 278,226 tons, against 273,000 tons. Trade at present was rather dull, and freights to America high; but a satisfactory export was looked for to France, Germany, and Italy in connection with the vine industry. It was to be remembered, he said, that the company held practically the world's stock of sulphur, and that they controlled the price.

A. & F. PEARS, LIMITED.—The ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held on October 28, at the Holborn Restaurant, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas J. Barratt, chairman of directors. In the course of his speech in moving the adoption of the report and accounts (see *C. & D.*, October 24, page 689), the Chairman said the business of the Company, in spite of increased cost for raw materials, had been well and profitably maintained. The business collectively is in excess of that of last year, and profits are greater. In a brief review of the position of the Company after eleven years of existence, he said they have actually solid property, after paying all debts, which is more than sufficient to pay out all the debenture-holders, all the preference shareholders, and a very large proportion of the ordinary shareholders. They have a goodwill which has had spent upon it, during the life of the company only, a sum which will shortly amount to a million sterling. The motion was seconded by Mr. Frederick Gordon and unanimously agreed to. Mr. Gordon was afterwards re-elected a director, and the payment of dividends was sanctioned. The auditors were re-elected, and thanks to the officers and staff closed the proceedings.

TOUTING EXTRAORDINARY.—The *British Medical Journal* mentions this week the case of a woman who sends to people a prescription which quite cured her of gout and rheumatism after fifteen years of awful agony, adding that she had to take eleven bottles only! She does not give her full address as she does not wish to be thanked, but volunteers the information that any good chemist or large drug-stores will make the prescription up. Finally, she appeals to the recipient, when it has done good, to "spread it far and wide by writing letters like this, and sending copies to sufferers; the chemist will always make copies (of the prescription) to give away." The prescription is written on a half-sheet of note-paper in a rather undecipherable manner. "At first sight," says the *British Medical Journal*, "the benevolence of the sender seemed to be quite pure and unalloyed by any taint of commercialism, but a second glance revealed the fact that one of the ingredients directed to be dispensed in making up the prescription was a proprietary medicine which we will not further advertise by naming. Whether this snowball method of toutage has the sanction of the firm of druggists mentioned in a footnote to the prescription does not appear. If it is, we should regard such a way of pushing business as most reprehensible. If it is not, the writer might find some less dangerous way of exercising his benevolence."

Birth.

MARTIN.—At 22 Market Place, Loughborough, on October 25, the wife of Arthur B. Martin, chemist and druggist, of a son.

Marriages.

HEATON—CUNDY.—On October 24, at St. Peter's Church, Preston Park, Brighton, Wallace Evans Heaton, pharmaceutical chemist, to Ethel May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Cundy, South Norwood.

JOHNSTONE—MURRAY.—At the Rutland Hotel, Edinburgh, on October 22, by the Rev. P. B. Crowley, North U.F. Church, Stonehaven, William Graham Johnstone, chemist and druggist, Apothecaries' Hall, Dumfries, to Hamilton, second surviving daughter of Mr. H. Murray, Barclay Street, Stonehaven.

LESCHER—CASELLA.—On October 21, at St. James's, Spanish Place, W., by the Rev. Wilfred Lescher, O.P., uncle of the bridegroom, assisted by the Very Rev. Canon Gildea, the Rev. M. Fitzgerald, and the Rev. J. Browne, S.J., rector of Stonyhurst, T. Edward Lescher, elder son of F. Harwood Lescher, of 31 Devonshire Place, to Ella Mary (Elsie), third daughter of L. M. Casella, of 47 Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, and Vachery, Cranleigh.

MCKEIGHT—HALAHAN.—On October 14, at St. Michael and All Angels' Parish Church, North Chapel, Sussex, by the Rev. Canon Halahan, M.A., cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev. George Bright, M.A., rector of the parish, and the Rev. F. J. Halahan, M.A., cousin of the bride, William Robert Percival McKnight, M.A., M.D., registered druggist, eldest son of W. J. McKnight, chemist and druggist (Hugh Moore & Alexanders, Limited, Dublin), to Kathleen Mary, eldest daughter of the late Colonel Halahan.

PERCIVAL—POTTER.—On October 7, at King's Street Church, Maidstone, by the Rev. A. H. Legg, Thomas Henry Percival, chemist and druggist, Walthamstow, second son of William Percival, to Ethel May Potter, second daughter of James Potter, of Maidstone.

Deaths.

BATY.—On September 18, at Mahé, Seychelles, of dysentery, Harold Jaques Law Baty (of the firm of Baty, Bergne & Co., Seychelles), Italian Consul, son of the late Rev. Jack Baty, of Worlaby, Roehampton, aged forty-one. Mr. Baty was an occasional contributor to this journal, and was one of the leading vanilla-growers in the island.

BRYANT.—At Burghersdorp, Cape Colony, on September 11, Mr. Nicholas John Andrew Bryant, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly assistant to Mr. W. H. Bucher, pharmaceutical chemist, of Boscawen Street, Truro, aged thirty-two.

DONIAN.—At the Johannesburg Hospital, on September 18, from pneumonia, Mr. H. Donian, chemist, of Main Road, Fordsburg. Mr. Donian had carried on business in the Transvaal for many years.

HOLL.—At Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on October 7, Mr. George Holl, chemist and druggist, aged forty-seven.

ROBERTSON.—At Preston Villa, Grange Place, Alloa, N.B., on October 17, Jessie Todd Forsyth, aged nineteen, second daughter of Mr. William Robertson, chemist and druggist, Alloa.

WADDINGTON.—At Thornton, near Bradford, Yorks, on October 23, Mr. Benjamin Waddington, chemist and druggist, of Market Street, Thornton, aged sixty-seven. Mr. Waddington was one of the oldest members of the trade in the West Riding, and was connected with a business which has been carried from generation to generation. He was born in the village, where his father kept a chemist's business, and he followed in his father's footsteps, being now succeeded in his turn by his son. One of Mr. Waddington's four daughters is dispenser at a Bristol hospital. Mr. Waddington was held in the highest esteem by his fellow-townsmen in general and his own trade in particular.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Delivery to Railway Company not within Jurisdiction.—In the City of London Court on Tuesday, October 27, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., an action was brought by Mrs. Sophia Lockwood, trading as J. R. Lockwood & Co., 163 St. John Street, Clerkenwell, to recover the sum of 201*l.* for medicated cases with a special imprint supplied to the defendants, the Sussex Co-operative Drug Company (Limited), trading as the Sussex Drug Company (Limited), 135 Queen's Road, Brighton. Mr. Champion, for the defendants, took exception to the Court's jurisdiction, and said the defendants should either have been sued at Brighton, their own court, or Clerkenwell, the plaintiffs' court. Mr. Coumbe said the Court had jurisdiction, because the breach of contract to take the goods in question had arisen within the jurisdiction of the Court. The London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company had received the goods at their Whitecross Street depôt on behalf of the defendants; therefore that gave the Court jurisdiction. The defendants had always undertaken to pay the carriage, and that constituted the railway company the defendants' agents. The defendants had since refused to accept delivery of the goods, and they had been in the hands of the railway company for some months. As the defendants had refused to accept delivery within a reasonable time the Court had jurisdiction. The goods had been at the disposal of the defendants for more than a year, and they were ordered in August, 1902. The Judge came to the conclusion that the Court had no jurisdiction, and the case was struck out, with an order for the defendants' costs.

Payment to the Wrong Parties.—In the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice on Monday, October 26, before Mr. Justice Phillimore, an action was heard in which the Société Chimique Ronbaisienne sued Messrs. Smith, Power & Co., of Coventry, to recover the balance of the price of goods sold and delivered. Mr. Eldon Bankes, K.C., for the plaintiff company, said the circumstances were rather peculiar. His clients carried on business in France, and some time ago they got into communication with a Mr. Sherrin, an Englishman, who represented that he had some patent or secret process for the manufacture of turpentine, and eventually arrangements were come to under which the French company was to start a factory for the manufacture of the turpentine at Southall, Middlesex, which Mr. Sherrin was to manage for them on the terms that he should take a share of the profits. It appeared that in May, 1902, the defendants, who carried on business at Coventry, gave orders for some turpentine to Sherrin, and that in May and June fifty-four barrels were delivered, and an invoice was sent in the name of Sherrin & Partners (Limited). About that time Sherrin and the plaintiffs fell out about the factory, and in July the plaintiffs gave defendants express notice that they were not to pay anyone but them. Eventually the defendants gave a four months' bill to Sherrin & Partners, which got into the hands of a Mr. Gronow, by whom it was presented; but there was no authority for the bill being given to Sherrin or Gronow, and plaintiffs simply asked to be paid for the goods sold and delivered. Mr. Muir Mackenzie said that the defendants were only anxious to pay the right persons, and did not wish to pay twice over. Mr. Bankes having read correspondence bearing on the matter, said that Gronow, who was only manager of works at the Southall factory, signed the receipt for the bill without having plaintiffs' authority, and therefore the plaintiff company was entitled to sue the defendants for the amount due on the goods sold and delivered, as the bill had, under the circumstances, not been met. Plaintiff company had always declined to give a receipt until they were paid in cash for the goods. The hearing was adjourned until Tuesday, when Mr. Mackenzie said he had endeavoured to subpoena Mr. Sherrin, but had not succeeded in doing so. His Lordship said that was unfortunate. After some further argument, during which Mr. Mackenzie repeated that his clients did not wish to evade payment of the money, his Lordship said it was admitted that plaintiffs were the real vendors of the goods, and not Mr. Sherrin or Sherrin & Partners (Limited). The defendants, it was also admitted, had received the goods, and had had them some considerable time, and had not paid for them. There had been a conflict of evidence as to Mr. Gronow's position in the matter, but it was evident that neither Sherrin nor he had any right to take payment for the goods. There must be judgment for plaintiffs for the amount claimed, 148*l.*, and costs. Defendants were entitled to some consideration from the fact that they had been shot at by two parties, but that would be met by the fact that they had had the goods without paying for them for twelve months.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

THE APOTHECARY'S ASSISTANT'S CERTIFICATE.

AT Bradford County Court, on Saturday, October 24, before Judge Bompas, K.C., Herbert Bairstow, assistant to Messrs.

Forshaw & Snow, chemists, Westgate, Bradford, was sued by the Pharmaceutical Society for two penalties of 5*l.* under Section 15, for selling poisons. Mr. A. Beldon appeared for the Pharmaceutical Society, and Mr. Last was for the defendant.

Mr. Beldon, in opening for the prosecution, said that the case was regarded as of more than usual importance, because Messrs. Forshaw & Snow were very well known to the public of Bradford, and attracted large numbers of people to their shop by advertising on a large scale. On July 8 and 18 the defendant made up a prescription which contained morphine in appreciable quantities. The sale was not denied, but the defence was that the defendant was qualified by examination under the Apothecaries Act, 1815, and that he was exempted by Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act, which related to the position of apothecaries. His answer to these defences was that Bairstow was not an apothecary, either by examination under the Act of 1815 or in any other way, nor was he exempted by Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act. It might be found that the defendant would produce an apothecary's assistant's certificate, but the Apothecaries Act showed that the apothecary's assistant was only entitled to compound and dispense medicines to a fully qualified medical man. His Honour would readily see the distinction between sale in a shop by an apothecary's assistant and compounding for a medical man. When a medical man made up a prescription, though it was compounded and dispensed by an assistant, it was the qualified man who took the responsibility and risk; and of course, before he prescribed, he had inquired into the patient's symptoms and condition, and prescribed accordingly, and he would avoid the inclusion of anything which might be harmful to the patient, having in mind his particular condition. But in the case of making up a prescription in a shop, anybody could go into the shop with a prescription scribbled in pencil, and it was vital in the interests of the public that there should then be a safeguard in the shape of the services of a qualified man in making it up. That was the very reason why penalties were provided under this Act. Finally, Mr. Beldon observed that, if this defence was sound, it was a rather curious fact that when proceedings were taken against Bairstow in 1898 he did not raise this defence at all, but paid the penalty.

EVIDENCE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. Harry Moon, being put into the witness-box, and producing the Registrar's authority, was cross-examined at great length by Mr. Last as to the manner of appointment of the Registrar, the questions being on similar lines to those put by Mr. Dunn in the Pickup case at Leeds on October 21. Mr. Last then submitted that the defence was entitled to further documentary proof of the appointment of Mr. Bremridge as Registrar, and that such strict proof was all the more necessary than ordinarily in County Court practice when it was a case of an action for penalties by a society which went up and down the country trapping people.

Mr. Beldon: I object to the word "trapping."

His Honour: I think it does work which is extremely essential. Your client, Mr. Last, may be the most excellent person upon this earth, but there are people in this country who are acting as chemists without being qualified, and it is a danger to the public which ought to be put down; and I should think that anyone ought to help in every way that he can the persons who are endeavouring to do a great public duty. It seems to me that when, by a certificate signed by the Society—they necessarily knowing whom they appointed—a person is stated to be their Registrar, to ask for any stricter proof than that would be making the law of proof a delusion and a snare.

Mr. Last: Would your Honour be kind enough to take a note of the objection?

Mr. Beldon: And will your Honour also please take a note of the fact that Mr. Moon says he was present when Mr. Bremridge was appointed Registrar?

Mr. Last: That is only secondary evidence.

His Honour: No, that is not secondary evidence. The evidence of a person who has been present, and swears to it, is better evidence than a mere written copy of a resolution. What better evidence could you have than that of a witness who swears that he was there when it was done? I will take a note of your objection.

In answer to further questions by Mr. Last, Mr. Moon said he could not say that he had ever seen an original assistant apothecary's certificate, and he was not aware that such a certificate qualified the holder for the sale of poisons. He knew that persons holding such a certificate had paid penalties, but he was not aware that any action on this question had been tried.

His Honour: I do not think it is very material whether it has been decided before or not. It has got to be decided now, and unless you have some other authorities I must decide it myself.

Mr. Last read an advertisement from a newspaper, in which a Board of Guardians advertised for a dispenser who "must be a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Society or hold their certificate," and he stated that these certificates were held in similar estimation in the army, the navy, and the hospitals.

His Honour: What can it matter to me what the Guardians choose to think about the law? I am not going to consider what other people do. The question is what has been done in this case, and I am the judge of what the Act of Parliament is. I really cannot think of what the Guardians do, or even the War Office. I cannot permit you to put in cross-examination the opinions of Boards of Guardians and others.

Arthur Foulds proved the purchase. He said he took a prescription for a cough-mixture, and it was made up by defendant Bairstow in both instances. Bairstow never left the shop on these occasions, but went behind the dispensing-screen. The only other person who was behind the counter was Mr. Charles Forshaw, who is not a qualified chemist and druggist.

Mr. Thomas Tickle proved that the quantity of morphine in the mixture was 0.18 gr. Smaller quantities than this, he stated, had caused loss of human life. There were no directions on the bottle as to the dose which should be taken. In cross-examination he said he was aware that the qualification of apothecary's assistant was accepted for positions as dispensers in the army, the navy, and some of the hospitals.

Mr. Last then opened his case for the defence. He said that Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act exempted persons qualified by an examination under the Apothecaries Acts to dispense medicines. In the present case the defendant held a certificate from the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin (certificate produced), dated June 5, 1903. Prior to obtaining this qualification the defendant was dispenser for seven years to Dr. Rabagliati, of Bradford. Now the object of the Pharmacy Act was declared to be "to prevent the sale of poisons by unqualified and ignorant persons." In this case it was obvious that the defendant was not an ignorant person, and he submitted further that he was qualified to dispense by virtue of his certificate, and he would point out that in this case the charge was for dispensing two prescriptions.

Mr. Beldon: Selling, not dispensing.

His Honour: Under what Act is the certificate?

Mr. Last: It is a certificate by the Apothecaries' Hall in Dublin, which is equivalent to the Apothecaries' Hall in London.

Mr. Beldon: This is the Apothecaries Act which I now hand in.

His Honour: I see that the apothecary and the assistant apothecary are two perfectly distinct qualifications. Do you think this is the same for Ireland as for England?

Mr. Last: I shall call as a witness Dr. Percy Lodge, who is a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Hall in Dublin, and who will say that that is so. Medical men, dentists, apothecaries, and all such classes having Irish, Scotch, or English qualifications, practise equally in any part of the British Isles.

His Honour: If that is so, show me the Act, because this Pharmacy Act is an Act for Great Britain, not for Great Britain and Ireland, and states expressly that "this Act shall not extend to Ireland."

Mr. Beldon: There is an exception in Section 16 of our Act for any legally qualified apothecary, but there is no mention of assistants; and that Section deals with all the exceptions there should be with regard to this particular Pharmacy Act.

His Honour: You must give me the Act, Mr. Last, which makes that certificate a proper authority.

Mr. Beldon: My friend has given notice of special defence

under the Apothecaries Act, 1815, and now he puts in a certificate under the Irish Act.

Mr. Last: At the time that special defence was filed I was under the impression that that Act of 1815 governed the Irish Act as well, but I have since ascertained, but only very recently, that the Apothecaries Act, 1791, under which the apothecaries of Ireland exist, is the one under which that certificate has been granted.

His Honour: That was before the Act of Union.

Dr. P. Lodge (interposing from the body of the court): A Registration Act extends its operation to England.

His Honour: What is it you rely on?

Mr. Last: The Irish Act; but unfortunately I do not happen to have that. It has only been mentioned during the last forty-eight hours.

His Honour: But a person qualified in Ireland is not necessarily qualified in England. If the English Act grants powers to sell poison to a legally qualified apothecary, that means legally qualified in England.

Mr. Last: We know from experience that these Irish qualifications hold good in England.

His Honour: I understand Dr. Lodge to say that there is some Imperial or English Act which extends the authority of the Irish Apothecaries' Hall to England?

Dr. Lodge: Yes, sir; it is the Registration Act of 1886.*

His Honour: I do not see any such section as you suggest.

Dr. Lodge: There is no specific section. It simply in effect extends the power from one country to another.

Mr. Beldon: I challenge my friend to show any section of any Act anywhere which makes an apothecary's assistant an apothecary.

Dr. Lodge: It is pretty generally recognised that a professional man having obtained a qualification in Ireland can practise also in England.

His Honour: I cannot recognise it. I cannot profess to be wise enough to recognise things unless you have shown me the Act which authorises them. Supposing a German apothecary came here, or one from China; he must be legally qualified according to the law of this country before he can act.

Mr. Beldon: But supposing an Irish apothecary were entitled, that does not cover the case of an apothecary's assistant. It is sufficient for my purpose that an assistant is not an apothecary under Section 16.

The argument then turned on the question whether Bairstow's action had been selling or dispensing, and on that point Mr. Beldon quoted the case of Pharmaceutical Society v. Wheeldon (*Law Reports*, vol. xxiv., Q.B., page 682).

Continuing his statement of the case for the defence, Mr. Last argued that, whether the defendant was qualified or not, if there was upon the premises a person who was duly qualified, and under whose supervision he was acting, then he was guiltless.

Mr. Beldon pointed out that the meaning of such supervision was governed by the judgment of Mr. Justice Hawkins in the Wheeldon case as to the meaning of "personal superintendence."

Dr. P. G. Lodge then gave evidence, stating that he knew the signatures of some of the gentlemen whose names were upon the certificate of the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, which was now produced, and held that that certificate was as good in England as in Ireland.

Mr. Beldon objected to these statements as evidence.

Dr. Lodge: These Medical Acts are better understood by doctors and others who are specialists on them.

His Honour: I dare say Mr. Moon can tell me whether the Pharmaceutical Society do, as a matter of practice, accept these Irish certificates.

Mr. Moon: We accept no certificates whatever in lieu of the Qualifying examination.

His Honour: And you cannot refer me to any Act which makes an Irish certificate binding upon you?

Mr. Moon: No, your Honour.

Dr. Lodge: My qualification in the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, is registered as a legal qualification in this country.

His Honour: The Medical Act may, for anything I know to the contrary, authorise the Medical Council to register persons who have received medical qualifications in different

* We presume that this refers to the Medical Act, 1886, which refers to the registration of medical practitioners.—EDRON.

parts of the United Kingdom, but the Apothecaries Act contains no such provision. I cannot—because for some reason it is arranged that the qualifications for doctors in England and Ireland shall be all one—say that it follows that the qualifications for chemists of England and Ireland should be all one.

Dr. Lodge: Apothecary is a medical term under the Act, and the apothecary is a medical man.

His Honour: Do you say that supposing 'somebody came with a qualification in China that we must register him?

Mr. Last: I do not contend for anything of the sort.

His Honour: The laws of Ireland are no more binding in England than those of China are. The certificate does not give the defendant any powers in England.

Dr. Lodge: The Irish medical men can practise in England.

His Honour: I dare say they can, because there may be some section in their Acts which authorises this, and if anyone can show me a section which relates in the same way to chemists I will admit it, but no such section is quoted to me.

Dr. Lodge: There is an Act which extends the powers of these apothecaries to all parts of the United Kingdom.

His Honour: And the assistant's certificate in any case gives no authority to sell. It does not profess to give any authority to sell; it only gives authority to assist a qualified man in making up a prescription. On that point I agree with Mr. Beldon.

His Honour then asked for any evidence that the defendant had of what took place in the shop.

EVIDENCE FOR THE DEFENCE.

Herbert Bairstow, the defendant, deposed that on both the occasions in question, when he got the prescription he took it behind the dispensing-screen and into a room on the right of the screen in which a Mr. Parker, who was a qualified chemist, was in attendance, and Mr. Parker examined the prescription and said it was all right and he might make it up. Mr. Parker could not be seen by anyone at the shop-counter. In the course of a lengthy cross-examination the witness said that he made up the prescription, put the label on it, handed it to Mr. Foulds over the counter, and received the money for it.

Mr. William Parker deposed that he was a registered chemist who had retired from business, and being a friend of Mr. T. G. Forshaw, and having all his time on his hands, attended the shop in the absence of Mr. Forshaw to superintend when necessary. He corroborated the evidence of Mr. Bairstow. Nobody at the counter could see into the room which Mr. Bairstow had described. In cross-examination witness stated that he simply went to the shop as a friendly action to Mr. Forshaw, and did not receive any remuneration. Mr. Forshaw was not in a position to dismiss him or insist upon him coming.

Mr. Last, in reference to a conflict of testimony between Mr. Tickle and Mr. Parker as to the dangerous nature of 0.18 gr. of morphine, referred his Honour to the case of *Pharmaceutical Society v. Dell*.

Mr. Beldon said he might save Mr. Last some trouble by quoting the more recent case of *Pharmaceutical Society v. Armon* (*Law Reports*, 1894, 2 Q.B., page 720). Going on to reply on the defendant's case, he emphasised the point that whatever the powers of an apothecary were the defendant was not an apothecary, but an assistant, and the exception of Section 16 only applied to the apothecary. As to the defence founded on the alleged supervision of Mr. Parker, he did not think that it was necessary for him to show that it was untrue, because if it was true the supervision was not such as came within the meaning of the decision. If it was necessary to go so far, however, he should argue that the evidence of Parker and Bairstow was not to be relied upon, because there was absolutely nothing in the nature of the prescription which would make the circumstances of its sale stand out particularly in the recollection of these two witnesses. As to the point of supervision, Mr. Justice Hawkins had made it clear in the case referred to that the supervision must be actual personal supervision by the qualified employer or the qualified assistant. In this case there was no evidence of actual supervision of the sale by anybody, for all that was claimed was that Bairstow went into a room and showed Parker the prescription, and then came out, leaving Parker in the room, and carried out the

sale himself, so that Parker had absolutely nothing to do with the sale, and the offence charged was not dispensing, but selling. And in this case there was no supervision by a qualified person, within the meaning of the Act, of that sale, because Parker was neither the employer nor a qualified assistant to the employer. In one sense the sale was by Mr. Forshaw, the employer, but not in the sense of the sale referred to in Section 15, because the sale could not be effected by a person who was not on the premises at all. The sale was made either by Parker—who, though a qualified man, was evidently not a qualified assistant to Forshaw, for he was not employed by Forshaw—or by Bairstow, who was not a qualified man at all. It could not be a sale by Parker, because he had no interest in the business. In any case, it was evidently not a sale by a qualified man. The Pharmacy Act declared most decisively that it should be unlawful to sell any scheduled poison unless the person selling was qualified, and Mr. Justice Hawkins's decision determined that the sale must be either by "a qualified employer or a qualified assistant to such employer."

A long argument then ensued as to the extent and nature of the personal superintendence which was necessary, His Honour suggesting that he was against Mr. Beldon on the point that Mr. Parker could not be regarded within the meaning of the Act as a qualified assistant to Mr. Forshaw, though the advocate pointed out that Parker would not be legally responsible for any neglect or in any other way, and was simply used as a cover for evading the intention of the Act. Mr. Beldon said he had further to submit that it was not true that Parker was on the premises, and that the prescription was taken to him, but that the evidence of Mr. Foulds as to the impossibility of this proceeding was conclusive. Ultimately, after three hours and a half, his Honour said that it was quite clear that he would have to give his decision upon the facts as well as the law, and he would therefore see the shop in company with Mr. Bairstow and Mr. Foulds that afternoon and give his decision on Tuesday.

On Tuesday morning Judge Bompas, K.C., gave

JUDGMENT.

He said he must decide in favour of the Pharmaceutical Society upon every ground. He had seen the shop at which the defendant was employed, and, whilst he was not going to charge anybody with saying what he knew to be false, he had got to make up his mind whether it was most likely that the witness was mistaken who said that he went there for that particular sale, and carefully watched what happened, or that the witnesses were correct who, though there was nothing at all to call their attention to that particular sale, deposed that they remembered that the prescription was submitted by Bairstow to Parker; and he thought that, according to the ordinary rules as to the most probable evidence, it was most probable that the evidence of the witness whose attention was directed to that particular act at the time was correct. Therefore, he did not think that Mr. Bairstow went and consulted Mr. Parker with reference to that particular sale. Moreover, he thought that if, on the contrary, the defendant was correct in stating that he went and consulted Mr. Parker, even that would not, on the authority of the case which had been quoted, make the sale other than a sale by Bairstow. According to the ruling in that case, Bairstow would be the person who sold unless the sale was personally superintended by a qualified chemist; and whilst he thought that Parker would have been a qualified chemist for that purpose, he thought that it would be necessary for Parker to have superintended the sale in the sense of having seen that the person to whom the sale was made and having seen that the goods sold were the goods which he had authorised to be sold. Merely sitting in a room and issuing this authority to make up and sell the prescription did not change the person who sold from the person who made it up and handed it over the counter to the person who authorised him to sell—Mr. Justice Hawkins gave what he considered was the reasonable meaning of the Act of Parliament in that respect—and he thought, therefore, that even if Bairstow and Parker were correct in what they said that would not have transferred the act of selling from the unauthorised person to an authorised person. Therefore the question arose whether Bairstow had any qualification which was sufficient to justify the sale; and he thought there was no such qualification.

The Act of Parliament said expressly that no one should sell who was not qualified under Section 4, with the exception of the qualified apothecary. He did not think, in the first place, that a qualified assistant-apothecary was a qualified apothecary; and, though the Pharmaceutical Society seemed to partially acquiesce in the suggestion that the Irish apothecaries' certificate would be sufficient to come within the exception of the English Act—and there might be something which he had not noticed, and which had not been brought to his attention—it appeared to him to be clear that if the Act said nobody could sell poisons but a qualified person, it meant that nobody could do this but a person qualified according to the law of England, and recognised by the law of England. Although it seemed that in the case of doctors their Medical Act had appointed an Irish representative upon the Council, and had made certain arrangements which enabled them to practise in England, the practice of chemists was regulated by a wholly different Act of Parliament, which he had looked into very carefully, and which stated that a certain particular body of English people had the right to be treated as chemists; and he did not see that the Irish Parliament—as he supposed it was in the days referred to—could make a person a chemist in England; and therefore he did not think that the Irish apothecaries' certificate would have been sufficient if it had been produced. But it was not necessary for him to decide that, because, at any rate, the assistant apothecaries' certificate would not be sufficient. Mr. Bairstow did himself sell these poisons, and there was nothing to protect him, and therefore the two penalties of 5*l.* for each offence must be inflicted. He understood that the suggestion was made that it would be better to enter judgment not in the form of a mere debt, but expressly as a penalty, because there was a good deal of difficulty the other day about the enforcement of a penalty. He still retained his opinion that it would be sufficient to enter it as an ordinary judgment, and that would not prevent it being treated as a penalty; but as it seemed that some other Courts, at any rate, entered it in a different form, stating expressly that this was a penalty, and that removed all doubt, he thought, if nothing was shown to the contrary, that judgment should be entered in that form.

Mr. Last said he did not remember any such point being raised in regard to this action.

His Honour explained the case (see *C. & D.*, June 20, and August 8, 1903).

Mr. Beldon applied for costs on the higher scale, claiming that the case came within Section 119 of the County Courts Act. Mr. Last held that this was an ordinary case merely, and not coming within the meaning of any one of the three points in Section 119.

His Honour, however, upheld Mr. Beldon's contention, and allowed costs under Scale B.

Mr. Last then applied that the defendant should be allowed to pay at 10*s.* a month, stating that he had a wife and six children and only 30*s.* a week salary.

Mr. Beldon: I should think the master ought to pay this.

His Honour: I should think the master—who is getting his man cheaper because he will do what is wanted, and at whose instigation obviously this course of procedure has been taken—ought to pay. It was evident from what Dr. Lodge stated that the master was pretty keenly interested in this matter, and he ought to pay something.

His Honour made an order for payment at the rate of 1*l.* a month.

Indecent Advertisements Act.

THE BOX OF PILLS.

At the Marylebone Police Court on October 26, Mr. Plowden again had before him the case of Frederick Neal, chemist and druggist, manager of Needham's (Limited), 297 Edgware Road, W., who was summoned for exhibiting to view in the window of his shop on August 17 certain printed matter of an indecent nature.

The case was fully gone into at the first hearing on September 10 (see *C. & D.*, September 19, page 495), and was adjourned by the Magistrate to see if the defendant carried out the promise he made, through his solicitor, to remove the advertisement complained of from his window.

Mr. Ricketts, who appeared for the defence, now pointed out that the defendant had removed the advertisement as promised, and had not exhibited it since.

Mr. Plowden said he had no power to put pressure upon the defendant to carry out what he had undertaken; but, as he had availed himself of the opportunity given to him to do so, the summons would be dismissed.*

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

STANDARD FOR BRITISH WINE.

At the Longford Quarter Sessions, Charles Mulligan was summoned by the local inspector, under the Food and Drugs Act, for selling ginger-wine which, according to the certificate of Professor Tichborne, was not of the nature or composition of good British wine, but was made up of syrup flavoured with ginger and capsicum. It was contended that this did not purport to be a British wine, but was sold as a cordial, as Yorkshire relish or any other sauce is. The defendant bought the wine from Haddon & Co., Belfast, at 9*s.* a dozen. Mr. J. H. Conlon, a traveller in wines, was examined, but he said he did not know what was meant by the term "good British wine." There was no standard for ginger-wine. His Honour said as matters stood he would be bound to dismiss the case, but he would allow it to stand for the present, with the view of getting expert evidence.

County Court Cases.

COCAINE IN DENTISTRY.

At Gloucester County Court on October 23, a remitted action was heard in which a carpenter, named Freeman, sued Mr. Ebenezer Apperly, dental surgeon, of Rowcroft, Stroud, for 16*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* damages for alleged negligence. Plaintiff's case was that he became seriously ill from cocaine-poisoning, owing, it was alleged, to the negligence of defendant's son in putting an overdose of cocaine into a tooth. Defendant's son, Henry David Apperly, who stated that he was a registered dentist, said the first dressing used for plaintiff's tooth was a little carbolic acid and a covering of mastic. The second dressing consisted of cocaine, lanolin, carbolic acid, oil of cloves, and carbolised resin. In the dressing no more than $\frac{1}{20}$ gr. of cocaine was used, while the cotton-wool was covered with carbolised resin. Defendant deposed to having used cocaine-lanolin for twenty years without ill effects. The jury failed to agree, and were discharged.

(See also Coloured Supplement for sale of business case.)

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re A. MACDONALD, Salford, Chemist.—The Official Receiver of the Manchester Bankruptcy Court reports that the realisation of the estate will give a first and final dividend of 2*s.* 7*d.* in the pound to the unsecured creditors.

Re ANDREW SHARP TAYLOR, Linskill Terrace, North Shields, Wholesale Druggist.—The public examination of this debtor took place at Newcastle Bankruptcy Court on October 22. Debtor stated that he succeeded to his father's business in 1896. He took over the stock and book-debts, less liabilities outstanding, and he was to pay his father 4 per cent. on the surplus assets. His father was returned as a creditor for 1,433*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* He was never in partnership with his father. The Official Receiver remarked that the accounts showed that debtor was in partnership with his father prior to 1896. Debtor said that his father founded the business and found the capital. The style of the business was "John Taylor," and when debtor succeeded to it the name was altered to "Taylor & Son." When the business was transferred, debtor's father issued a circular, signed by him, and which said "I have transferred the business which I have carried on." The examination was adjourned until November 5.

* Mr. Neal, writing in respect to this case, says: "The summons against me was dismissed on Monday afternoon by Mr. Plowden after a lengthy hearing and three adjournments (on our asking him for a final judgment). As this case was of vital interest to me personally, and also of some importance to the trade (as is proved by the communications I have received), it behoved me to fight it out, although that has occasioned no little expense and inconvenience."

Re GEORGES LEONCE BOUTIN (trading as G. L. Boutin & Co.), 15 Fish Street Hill, E.C., Gelatine Merchant.—The public examination of this debtor was held on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Giffard, at the London Bankruptcy Court. The statement of affairs shows gross liabilities 3,584*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, of which 2,536*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* is unsecured, and assets 6*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* absorbed by the preferential claims.

Re S. & E. BURFORD, Drmmond Road, Bermondsey, Salt, Soda, and Alkali Merchants.—The first meeting of creditors was held on October 27 at the London Bankruptcy Court. The receiving order was made on the petition of the Staffordshire Salt and Alkali Company (Limited), creditors for 63*l.* It appeared that Mrs. Sarah Burford, widow of Wm. Burford, who died in 1886, commenced the above business last November in partnership with her daughter Miss S. A. Burford. The liabilities are returned at about 600*l.*, and the assets at between 300*l.* and 400*l.* Mr. Harry Wilson, incorporated accountant, Essex Street, W.C., was appointed to act as trustee and administer the estate in bankruptcy, assisted by a committee of inspection.

Re WILLIAM READER, Forest Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Druggist.—The public examination took place at Newcastle-upon-Tyne Bankruptcy Court on October 22. Questioned by the Official Receiver (Mr. J. Grant Gibson), debtor stated that he commenced business at Forest Hall eight and a half years ago with a capital of 30*l.* or 40*l.* He made an arrangement with his creditors about six years ago, and agreed to pay a composition of 5*s.* in the pound. His liabilities then were 180*l.* and his assets 100*l.* He did not wish to realise the assets, so he borrowed 20*l.*, and afterwards gave a bill of sale for 99*l.* No portion of the latter had been paid off. Six or seven months later he borrowed another 50*l.* For four and a half years Mr. Simm, who had advanced money to him, had taken all the takings of the business, leaving debtor only sufficient to live upon. He was allowed on the average 2*l.* a week. Mr. Simm, who was a cattle-salesman, ordered the goods for the business himself and paid bills, and debtor regarded him as a partner. The takings of the business represented 15*l.* a week, but he could not say whether that represented a profit or a loss. The examination was adjourned until November 5.

Re SPENCER STREET, 31 St. Leonard's Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, Chemist and Druggist.—The Official Receiver in his observations reports that the bankrupt states that he commenced business in August, 1900, at Bexhill, with a capital of 640*l.*, 200*l.* of which was borrowed from his father. He purchased the business for 600*l.*, and the takings were then about 1,000*l.* a year, but the trade had been cut down to very small profits, the takings having since decreased to 700*l.* a year. He opened a branch shop in Station Road in September, 1902, but closed it in June last, losing at least 200*l.* by the transaction. From a statement furnished by debtor it appears that his takings from August 1 to October 1 amounted to 115*l.*, but the subsequent week's takings fell to 2*l.* 10*s.* He gives as the causes of his insolvency "mainly through opening a branch in Station Road and want of capital," and states that he became aware of his insolvency a week before the receiving order. The statement of affairs has not yet been completed, but in its present incomplete form the liabilities appear to be 685*l.*, owing to fifty-eight creditors, forty-seven of whom are under 10*l.* There is one liability of 290*l.* for money lent. Two years' rent amounting to 45*l.* had accrued. The assets are set out by the debtor as stock-in-trade, 100*l.*; trade-furniture, 300*l.*; furniture, 20*l.*; and book-debts, 20*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* The value of the stock and furniture appears to be altogether illusory, as the Official Receiver's agent reports that they are not likely to realise more than 100*l.* The bankrupt states in his deficiency account that his liabilities exceeded his assets by 273*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* twelve months ago, that he has lost 200*l.* in stocking and carrying on the business in Station Road, and he spent 200*l.* in household expenses.

Re ASHMORE & SON, 38 Mincing Lane, E.C., and 44 Wall Street, New York, Merchants.—At the London Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday an application was made to Mr. Registrar Hope for orders of discharge on behalf of Henry Leslie Ashmore and Henry Beckwith Ashmore, who, with Arthur Halliburton Ashmore, constituted the above firm. Mr. G. W. Chapman attended as Official Receiver, Mr. Muir Mackenzie for Messrs. Brandt, creditors for 5,600*l.*, and Mr. Mellor for the applicants. The offences reported by the Official Receiver were (1) insufficiency of assets to pay 10*s.* in the pound to the creditors, (2) imperfect book-keeping, and (3) that the bankrupts were guilty of misconduct as traders in having, subsequent to December, 1898, continued to trade and incur liabilities without having ascertained their financial position or the result of their trading, they having been since June, 1902, insolvent and trading at a loss. The further offence of contributing to the bankruptcy by unjustifiable extravagance in living was reported against the applicant H. B. Ashmore. Mr. Muir Mackenzie further charged the debtors with having, on February 26 last, after the credit of the firm had been stopped, given to an American firm an assignment over certain book-debts. That, he submitted, was a very grave matter. He

opposed the application further, because of the circumstances under which his clients' debt of 5,600*l.* was incurred. On January 20 last they advanced 7,500*l.* to the firm to enable certain produce to be cleared, but the money instead of being used for that purpose was paid away to another merchant. On those grounds, coupled with the charges preferred by the Official Receiver, he asked that a lengthy term of suspension should be imposed. Mr. Mellor addressed the Court in mitigation, and did not attempt to dispute the facts. He pointed out that the applicants were quite young members of the firm, and throughout Mr. A. H. Ashmore had entire control of the financial department, he being, in fact, the moving spirit. Mr. H. L. Ashmore was really the market clerk, and Mr. H. B. Ashmore was the firm's American representative, an office in New York having been opened by him last January. With regard to Messrs. Brandt's claim, that was in respect of a transaction entered into on the firm's behalf by Mr. A. H. Ashmore, and the two applicants were entirely ignorant of it until a month or six weeks after it had taken place. Then with reference to the assignment of the book debts by Mr. H. B. Ashmore to a New York firm, he submitted that it had not been shown that the estate had lost a single sixpence thereby. It was not until the arrival of Mr. A. H. Ashmore in America on February 14 that Mr. H. B. Ashmore had any idea that the firm was not perfectly solvent.

The Registrar, in giving judgment on October 29, said the case showed a want of business care on the part of both applicants, whose contention that they relied entirely on the senior debtor did not relieve them from all responsibility as traders. The liabilities were heavy, quite apart from Messrs. Brandt's debt, of which they disclaimed all knowledge until the transaction had been carried through by Mr. A. H. Ashmore, and the assets were very little. With regard to the American assignment of book-debts by the applicant, H. B. Ashmore, it had been shown that the other applicant, H. L. Ashmore, was quite ignorant of the transaction, and could not be held responsible for it. The assignment put about 140*l.* worth of assets out of the reach of the English creditors, and it was given a short time after a warning was received by the debtor from England that the firm would probably have to stop payment. It had been urged that the preference was given to keep the firm going, and in that way to benefit the whole body of creditors, but he must hold that a trader was not justified in dealing with assets in that fashion without first consulting the creditors at large. The charge preferred against H. B. Ashmore of contributing to the bankruptcy by unjustifiable extravagance in living also held good, as it was admitted that for a period of two years and a quarter he had drawn at the rate of 1,600*l.* a year from the business, although he was only entitled to 1,125*l.* as his share of the 1901 profit, and a loss was made during 1902 and 1903. The only offences for which H. L. Ashmore had to answer were the insufficiency of assets to pay 10*s.* in the pound to the creditors, and the imperfect book-keeping, and in his case it would be sufficient to impose a suspension of three years from the conclusion of the public examination in June last. The other applicant had also to answer for the extravagance in living, and the misconduct in relation to the American assignment, and his discharge would be suspended for four years from the public examination.

Orders entered accordingly.

Deed of Arrangement.

Webster, James, 106 High Street, Leeds, Druggist. Trustee. **Herbert E. Harwood**, 6 Infirmary Street, Leeds, accountant. Dated, October 19; filed, October 26. Liabilities unsecured, 55*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*; estimated net assets, 45*l.*

Business Changes.

MR. G. SHELLEY, chemist and druggist, is opening a business at Newport, Mon.

MR. T. A. JONES is opening a chemist's business at Pontardulais, Glamorganshire.

MR. A. D. LLEWELLYN is opening a business under the style of "The Medical Hall" at Tonyrefail, Glam.

MR. J. W. WEBBER, pharmaceutical chemist, has sold his business at Church Road, Willesden, to Messrs. Darcy & Co.

MR. E. CRANSTON, chemist and druggist, is about to open a business at Hither Green, S.E., as soon as the necessary fitting is completed.

The business of **MR. J. EARLES**, chemist and druggist, Barnham-on-Crouch, has lately been purchased by **MR. J. N. SOWBY**, chemist and druggist.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: October 29.

JUDGING from the tone exhibited at the auctions to-day business has been fairly brisk in crude drugs, and prices generally were very firm, except in a few instances where goods were forced off. Cape aloes brought very high prices, competition being active. Buchu is slow of sale, and both Para copaiba and balsam tolu sold cheaply, especially the latter. Canada balsam is very scarce. Sumatra benzoin sold at steady but unaltered rates. Cascara sagrada is temporarily lower, owing to recent arrivals, which can be offered at below the lately current quotations and still bear a good profit. Fine and common cardamoms were steady, but medium were easier. Ergot is lower, as the Russian crop is reported to be a large one. Jamaica honey was about 1s. dearer, and Rio ipecac. was about steady compared with the prices paid privately. Menthol is inclined to be firmer, and holders ask varying prices. Rhubarb is slow of sale, and rather lower prices were accepted for grey Jamaica sarsaparilla, though quality was barely fair. Common to medium senna was rather dearer, but good green was easier. Jamaica wax was neglected, the tendency being lower. Zanzibar and Madagascar beeswax sold at firm rates. Outside of the auctions there has been a substantial advance in Valencia saffron, due to drought. Quinine is firmer and rather more active. Copper sulphate has advanced 10s., and is likely to go higher; borax may also advance. Several important advances have taken place in American roots, &c., including podophyllum, Mexican sarsaparilla; lobelia, damiana, and bayberry-bark. In essential oils, star aniseed is inclined to be firmer, and oil of peppermint is flat and easier. Japanese wax is dearer, and tartaric acid is easier. Another active week has passed in shellac and cloves, a marked advance having taken place in the latter article. The following are the principal alterations of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Bayberry	Balsam peru	Acid, tartaric	Balsam
Canary-seed	Benzols	Ergot	copaiba (Para)
Chillies (Zan.)	Menthol	Opium (Tky.)	Balsam tolu
Cloves	Oil, aniseed,	Mace	Cascara
Copper sul-	star	Nutmegs	sagrada
phate	Quinine (sec.	(W.I.)	Ergot
Cumin-seed	hands)	Oil, pepper-	Tonka-beans
Dextrin		mint	(Para)
Farina		Potash,	
Fenugreek-		chlorate	
seed			
Honey (Jam.)			
Lobelia herb			
Mandrake-root			
Oil, clove			
Saffron			
Sarsaparilla			
(Mex.)			
Wax (Japanese)			

ACID, CITRIC, is very quiet at 1s. per lb.

ACID, TARTARIC, is easier, English being quoted from 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1d. per lb., and foreign 1s. per lb.

ALKANET-ROOT is obtainable at 26s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

ARECA.—The market has been cleared of areca at between 9s. and 10s. per cwt., and 15s. is now asked.

BALSAM PERU.—The position on the Continent appears to have become somewhat firmer of late and holders have advanced their prices in some instances by ½ m. per kilo.

BAYBERRY.—Higher prices are quoted from the United States—viz., 7d., c.i.f.

BORAX.—An advance is looked for, as makers are very strong in their ideas and are not disposed to book for forward delivery.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on November 12 will consist of 7569 bales and 637 cases, weighing 702,329 kilos. The stock in first hands at Amsterdam on October 23 consisted of 2,940 packages Government bark and 9,062 packages private bark, including the quantity to be offered above.

COPPER SULPHATE is 10s. per ton dearer in sympathy with copper, ordinary brands of sulphate having advanced to 19½. Anchor 20½. 5s., and Macclesfield 21½. per ton.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Rather a better tone has prevailed this week, but there is no alteration in prices, 98-per-cent. powder offering at 8½s. to 8s. per cwt., and 95-per-cent. powder 82s. to 83s.

DAMIANA-LEAVES.—The crop is reported to be a failure this year. As a fact, no arrivals have reached San Francisco, although as a rule they come in much earlier; 5½d. is a nominal quotation.

DANDELION-ROOT is a scarce article, and the new crop of English is coming to hand very slowly, there being a difficulty in getting firm offers. Nominal prices range from 36s. to 38s. per cwt. for English, and 33s. to 35s. for foreign.

DEXTRIN has advanced in conjunction with farina, present price being 13½. 5s. per ton, f.o.b.

ERGOT.—Quiet, with Spanish offering at 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 9d. per lb., spot, the lower figure being for ton lots. The Russian crop is reported to be a large one, and there are offers of 1s. 8d., c.i.f. No business was done in auction.

ETHER.—On account of the advance in German spirit, prices have risen on the Continent by 2m. per 100 kilos., 0-720 being quoted 2½s.

FARINA.—A considerable advance has taken place, importers now quoting 10½. 7s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. The rise is principally due to the poor potato-crop in Holland.

FENNEL-SEED.—The exports from Salonica during 1902 amounted to 1,300 tons, against 761 tons during 1900.

GAMBIER.—A small business is reported in *Cubes* at 40s., but for quantity less would be accepted.

GAMBOGE.—According to the British Consul at Bangkok, the exports from that port last year amounted in value to 810½, against 249½ in 1901.

GLYCERIN.—In Liverpool 193 cases of South American crude sold at 33½. 10s. per ton, ex quay.

GUM ARABIC.—Fair Karachi-Amrad has been sold recently in small lots at 2½s. per cwt. In auction 44 cases small to bold, partly frosted, Karachi-Amrad sorts sold at 23s.

IODINE.—According to official reports the production of iodine in Chili during 1902 amounted to 128 metric tons; twenty-seven out of a total of eighty-one nitrate-works contributed to this output. In spite of the great decrease in manufacture and export of 239 tons, the stock was 728 tons on December 31, 1902. Deliveries were 483 tons, which, at the rate of 6½. per oz. (the market-price of crude), represents a value of about 430,000½. The cost price works out at less than 2½. per oz.

LIME-JUICE is flat, 1s. per gal. being the nominal quotation for fair West Indian juice.

LOBELIA HERB is dearer, holders asking 5½. per lb. on the spot.

LYCOPODIUM.—Russian double-sifted is firm at 2s. 3½d. per lb.

MAIZE-STARCH keeps low in price, Continental powder being quoted at 9s. to 9s. 6d. per cwt., ex wharf London, and for American maize-powder 11s. 9d. is quoted in small lots. Rice-powder is offered at 18s.

MORPHINE.—Steady, but quiet, 4s. 6d. per oz. being nearest value of hydrochloride from makers.

OIL, ANISEED, STAR.—Sales have been made at 4s. 3½d. to 4s. 4d. per lb., and the tendency is firmer.

OIL, CAJUPUT.—Guaranteed genuine B.P. is worth 4s. per bottle. Several parcels recently sold as "guaranteed B.P." have been returned to the seller, as on analysis they did not correspond with the B.P. test.

OIL, CASTOR.—The value of Calcutta seconds is 2d. per lb.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Ceylon is unaltered at 9½d. per lb., spot, for drums, and 10½d. for cases.

OIL, CLOVE, has advanced a further 6d. per lb. in sympathy with the parent spice, and distillers now quote 4s. 6d., at which business has been done; one distiller asks 4s. 9d. to-day.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 24 that the cod-liver-oil market is firm with a rising tendency for pure oil, and holders are not disposed to sell at the previous quotations of 480s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, for finest. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 2,060 barrels, against 7,962 barrels at the same time last year.

A private advice received from Norway this week indicates that the cod's enemy—the seal—is already on the warpath, as it has appeared in several places on the coasts in the North of Norway. We understand from our informant that its appearance so much earlier than last year is regarded in Norway as likely to be again disastrous to the fishing. *Apropos* of seals, it is interesting to note that, according to the *Daily Mail* correspondent at Berwick-on-Tweed, serious complaints are rife regarding the depredations of Farne Island seals among Tweed salmon. It appears that there is a colony of seals on one of the islands, which prey on the salmon as they endeavour to get into the Tweed from the sea. From another source we hear that the few cod now being caught in the North of Norway are fat and the livers full of oil.

OIL, LEMONGRASS, is inactive, and for quantity 5d. per oz., spot, would probably be accepted.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—The October deliveries of American HGH have brought about lower prices, re-sales having been made at 15s. Tin oil for the same reason is without demand from first hands, although from advices from suppliers in the West the market will eventually go higher. Japanese Kobayashi is quoted at 7s. 6d. spot, with sales thereat, and to arrive 7s. 3d. to 7s. 6d., c.i.f., is quoted as to position.

OIL, TURPENTINE.—According to the British Consul at Charleston, the exports of turpentine from Brunswick, Wilmington, and Savannah were as under:

From	1900	1901	1902
Brunswick—barrels ...	80,747	84,153	71,186
Wilmington—casks and cases ...	24,607	18,539	19,021
Savannah—gals. ...	12,152,932	12,443,684	10,352,553
Wilmington—barrels (crude) ...	19,847	20,110	23,812

OIL, WOOD.—Small sales of Harkow have lately been made at 26s. 6d. per cwt, spot.

OPIMUM.—The market for Persian is firm, but quiet, at from 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per lb., spot. In Turkey opium there has been some pressure to sell, and 50 cases manufacturing Tokat seconds have changed hands at rather easier prices—viz. 10s. 9d. per lb.

SMYRNA, October 16.—Our opium-market has been weak of late in consequence of no demand from large consumers. This week also we have had some showers of rain, which further weakened the position, and some 60 cases of new sold at 8s. 4d. per lb. for the United States; and 10 to 15 cases old at 8s. 6d. to 8s. 10d. per lb, f.o.b., for the Continent. If rain continues, so as to ensure favourable sowings, we may see a further decline, especi-

ally if the present comparatively small demand from consumers continues much longer. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,465 cases, against 4,208 cases at the corresponding period of last year.

CONSTANTINOPLE, October 23.—Abstention on the part of buyers and favourable weather for fall sowings have weakened the position, and the market is slightly lower, but any resumption of buying would at once harden the position. Stocks are low as compared with last year, and very little remains inland. The consuming markets will have to replenish their stocks ere long, and as soon as buying orders begin to come on to these markets holders are pretty certain to raise their prices. The week's sales amount to four cases druggists' at 8s., and eight cases Karahissars at 8s. 2d. to 8s. 3d. per lb., f.o.b.

The exports of opium from Salonica during 1902 amounted approximately to 4,000 cwt., against 2,600 cwt. in 1900. The U.K. and U.S.A. received the bulk.

PHOSPHORUS.—A Continental report states that the combination of makers which was formed early this year has only led to a slight improvement in the position of the article, and that the prices leave only a slight profit. However, an advance in prices is looked for during 1904.

PODOPHYLLUM has had a sharp advance to 42s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot, owing to short supplies and the difficulty of obtaining any from the United States, where it is also scarce and much wanted.

POTASH CHLORATE is easier, crystals offering at 2½d. per lb. net, and powder 2½d. spot.

QUININE.—There has been more demand this week, and the tendency is firmer. Fair sales of secondhand German in bulk have been made at 1s. 0½d. per oz spot; December at 1s. 0½d.; and March at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 0¾d., the market closing on Wednesday with further spot buyers at 1s. 0½d. To-day March sold at 1s. 0½d.

SAFFRON.—The market in Valencia has been excited this week, and several advances have taken place, with the result that prices are 5s. to 7s. 6d. to per lb. dearer, one importer quoting finest new Valencia for delivery in about a month at 42s. 6d. per lb. net. Old crop has had a corresponding advance, importers quoting from 33s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. according to quality, the higher figure representing finest. With the higher prices for Valencia there will probably be more demand for Alicante description, which is quoted at 22s. As we have already indicated, the cold weather and drought in Spain have retarded the gathering of the crop.

SANTONIN is firm, with a tendency to advance again; 22s. 6d. per lb. in bulk is the lowest price.

SEEDS.—Russian *Anise* firm, but quiet, at 20s. per cwt. Turkish *Canary* dearer owing to supplies of new crop coming forward slowly, and the smallness of stocks everywhere. Business has been done at 54s. per quarter, but higher prices are now demanded. Spanish and fine Morocco kinds are extremely scarce, and bring fancy prices. Dutch *Caraway*s slow at 21s. per cwt. *Coriander* steady at 14s. to 15s. per cwt. for ordinary to fine Morocco. The crop has been very small this year, and higher prices are expected. *Fennel* very slow at 37s. to 40s. per quarter. *Fenugreek* dearer at 8s. 6d. per cwt. for new crop Morocco, the quality of which is indifferent. *Cumin* also dearer; Mogador is quoted 25s. to 27s. 6d., and Malta 26s. to 32s. per cwt.

SENEGA.—Reports from New York point to advancing prices as soon as the consuming season has set in. On the spot 3s. 4d. net is quoted, and a small parcel of inferior stemmy catalogued for auction has been sold at this price.

SHELLAC.—Prices have fluctuated this week, and the tone has become quieter owing to the endeavours of bears to depress the market, but in spite of their efforts the market has further advanced on balance. On the spot TN Orange has been in good demand, up to 222s. having been paid for fair, and Garnet at 175s. For December delivery "futures" have sold up to 223s., and January up to 221s. per cwt., and for arrival TN for November-January shipment has sold up to 213s., c.i.f. terms.

SPICES.—At auction Cochin *Ginger* was in large supply and met with a slow sale. Over one thousand packages were offered, of which about 160 sold without reserve at 34s. for brown rough Calicut and 28s. for D rough. Washed rough was taken out at 30s. to 35s., and medium and bold fair scraped cut kinds at 70s. *White pepper* sold at dearer prices,

including fair Singapore at 10*d.*, at which sales have been made privately, also Penang at 9½*d.* spot. Saigon pepper sold in auction at 6½*d.* to 6¾*d.* for good heavy sifted, and good heavy Tellicherry was bought in at 6½*d.* For arrival Singapore is dearer at 6½*d.* to 6¾*d.*, with sales thereat, and at 6¾*d.* spot. Zanzibar *Chillies* are dearer, fair dullish (38 bags) selling at 55*s.* 6*d.*, and Japan (100) sold at 22*s.* 6*d.* to 23*s.* for large reddish and yellow without reserve. *Capiscums* steady, 50 bags Japanese selling without reserve at 15*s.* to 15*s.* 6*d.* for reddish and yellow, mostly off stalk. *Pimento* firm, ordinary mixed blacks to fair selling at 4*d.* to 4½*d.* W. I. *Nutmegs* were easier, and Penang quiet. *Mace* was also easier. Zanzibar *Cloves* at auction were taken out at 7½*d.* for 50 bags dark. Privately a large speculative business has again been done, and on Wednesday up to 7½*d.* to 7¾*d.* for January-March and March-May shipment has been paid. The Zanzibar crop is not expected to be over 35,000 to 40,000 bales. To-day 1,000 bales have been sold at 7½*d.* to 7¾*d.* for January-March and March-May.

STICKLAC.—The exports from Bangkok during 1902 amounted to 468 tons (19,545*l.*), against 585 tons (16,992*l.*) in 1901, or a decrease of 117 tons; 71 per cent. of the total was shipped to Singapore in transit.

SUGAR OF MILK.—A report from the Continent indicates that the article is very scarce, and that supplies from the United States have entirely ceased. The German makers, it is said, have sold their output for this year and part of next. For prompt delivery prices have advanced 5*m.* to 10*m.* per 100 kilos., and when the proposed import duty of 40*m.* per cwt. takes place, a marked advance will occur.

TRAGACANTH.—There has been a fair amount of activity, chiefly in good Persian thirds, up to 12*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. having been paid. Bagdad descriptions remain neglected.

VANILLIN.—This article is scarcer than what it was, owing, it is said, to the fact that several makers have abandoned its manufacture as unremunerative, and particularly is this so as regards French make, makers of which are unable to offer. This has led to a much firmer feeling, Swiss make being quoted at from 18*s.* 6*d.* per lb. for delivery not before December.

London Drug-auctions.

Offered	Sold	Offered	Sold
Aconite	2 ... 0	Mastich	6 ... 0
Aloes—		Menthol	5 ... 0
Cape	51 ... 51	Myrrh	10 ... 0
Curaçao (boxes) ..	70 ... 70	Oil—	
Ambergris	2 ... 0	aniseed star	9 ... 0
Aniseed (Russ.) ...	50 ... *10	bay	1 ... 0
Antimony	39 ... 0	col-liver	31 ... 0
Areca	21 ... *21	eucalyptus	57 ... 19
Balsam—		lime (W.I.)	2 ... 1
Canada	3 ... 3	orange	1 ... 0
Copaiba	29 ... 6	rose (E.I.)	3 ... 0
Tolu	13 ... 13	wood	4 ... 0
Benzoin—		Orange-peel	1 ... 1
Palembang	15 ... 0	Orchella-weed	35 ... 0
Sumatra	287 ... 32	Pistachio	2 ... 0
Buchu	2 ... 0	Rhubarb	90 ... 26
Camphor (cr.)	1 ... 0	"Roots E.I."	8 ... 0
Cardamoms	524 ... 321	Sandarac	20 ... 0
Cascara sagrada ...	100 ... 0	Sarsaparilla—	
Cinchona	3 ... 0	grey Jamaica ...	60 ... 52
Coca-leaves	22 ... 18	Lima Jamaica ...	17 ... 14
Cocculus indicus ...	47 ... 47	native Jam.	6 ... 0
Cuttle-fish bone ...	27 ... 0	Senega	3 ... *3
Dragon's-blood	2 ... 0	Senna—	
Elemi	20 ... 0	Tinnevely	147 ... 147
Ergot	19 ... 0	Soy	50 ... 0
Gum acacia	84 ... 59	Squills	30 ... 0
Honey—		Sticklac	7 ... 7
Californian	20 ... 0	Tonka-beans	6 ... 3
Chilian	100 ... 0	Turmeric	75 ... 0
Jamaica	177 ... 126	Turtle (dried)	1 ... 1
Ignatius-beans	31 ... 31	Wax (bees)—	
Ipecacuanha—		Australian	8 ... 4
Cartagena	4 ... 3	Chilian	2 ... 0
Johore	42 ... 37	East Indian	12 ... 0
Rio (Matto Grosso) ..	25 ... 4	Jamaica	28 ... 2
" (Minas) ...	10 ... 0	Japanese	25 ... 0
Isinglass	18 ... 18	Madagascar	37 ... 37
Jalap	20 ... 0	Zanzibar	155 ... 133
Kola	7 ... 7		

* Sold privately.

AGAR-AGAR.—In auction 18 packages Japanese strip sold without reserve at 1*s.* 5*d.*, and pickings at 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. Privately good strip is worth 1*s.* 7*d.*

ALOES.—Cape aloes was in better supply and met with active competition at fully firm but irregular prices, the best lots being cheap as compared with the rates paid for the medium and lower grades. Fair to good bright hard sold at from 48*s.* to 50*s.*; seconds, rather drossy and part softish, 45*s.* 6*d.* to 47*s.* 6*d.*; dull and very drossy, 42*s.* to 45*s.* A parcel of 50 boxes bright Capey Curaçao, part softish, sold at from 21*s.* to 23*s.*, and dull softish at 19*s.*; 20 boxes fair brown lively aloes sold at 21*s.* without reserve.

BALSAM, CANADA.—Good bright sold at 1*s.* 11*d.* per lb. for three barrels.

BALSAM, COPAIBA.—Six casks of Para sold at lower prices from 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb. being paid for cloudy to good bright genuine. Good Maranham was held for 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Lower. Five cases containing large tins of fair softish sold at 9½*d.*, and eight cases drossy and soft sold at 8*d.*

BENZON.—Quiet and unaltered. Fair Sumatra seconds with small to medium pale almonds, slightly false packed, sold at 6*l.* 5*s.* to 6*l.* 10*s.* per cwt, and good medium seconds at 6*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Fair Palembang in large block was bought in at 38*s.*

The value of the benzoïn shipped from the port of Bangkok during 1902 amounted to 729*l.*, or 105% more than in the previous year.

BUCHU.—Two bales of very stalky and yellowish were taken out at 8*l.* per lb.; for good green 9½*l.* is asked privately.

CARDAMOMS.—A less quantity than that originally advertised was brought forward. Prices for medium grades were rather easier, but fine and common were fully steady. The following rates were paid: Ceylon-Mysore, good bold pale well-bleached smooth, 2*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*; bold, long, rather yellowish pale, slightly sea-damaged, 1*s.* 8*d.*; bold medium pale, 1*s.* 4*d.*; medium pale, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*, subject; small yellowish pale, 8½*d.* to 9*d.*; extra bold dullish, 1*s.* 4*d.*; bold medium dullish, 10½*d.* to 1*s.*; bold specky dull, 9½*d.*; small open and dull specky, 7½*d.* to 8½*d.*; medium yellowish, 11*d.*; brown splits and pickings, 6*d.* to 7½*d.*; peas, 6*l.* *Seeds*, 11½*d.* to 1*s.* per lb. Six cases of low wild China seed sold at 1*d.* per lb.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—In auction 100 bags of fair one-year-old bark were taken out at a nominal price. Privately, the market is easier owing to the absence of consumptive demand; 75*s.* per cwt. will buy new bark, and old bark is quoted 80*s.* to 85*s.* as to holder.

According to a dispatch to the Portland, Ore., *Journal*, dated Corallis, Ore., September 30, nearly \$50,000 in cash has been realised from the sale of cascara sagrada purchased and shipped from Benton County during the past season. Careful compilation and conservative estimates place the exact figures at \$59,400. The product is represented in 27 11-ton cars of bark, either shipped or to be shipped this season. The aggregate weight of the bark was 594,000 lbs. Though much of it went at 14*c.* and better, so much left the peelers' hands at 4*c.*, 5*c.*, and 6*c.* earlier in the season that the average price is believed to have fallen at about 10*c.*—*American Druggist*.

COCA-LEAVES.—Ceylon sold at 8½*d.* to 11*d.* for fair dark brownish, and dull broken Truxillo were taken out at 1*s.* per lb.

COCCULUS INDICUS.—A parcel of 47 bags, slightly damaged, sold without reserve, at 7*s.* 3*d.* per cwt.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Good thick finger with dark-red colour, but poorly wrapped, was taken out at 10*l.* per cwt.

HONEY.—Fine Jamaica was about 1*s.* per cwt. dearer, good pale setting in barrels selling at from 23*s.* 6*d.* to 28*s.*; fair pale to yellowish ditto, 22*s.* 6*d.* to 25*s.*; fair amber to dark liquid setting, 20*s.* 6*d.* to 24*s.* 6*d.*; and dark and mixed, 18*s.* 6*d.* to 19*s.* Eleven cases fair amber liquid sold at 26*s.* per cwt.

IGNATIUS BEANS.—A parcel of 31 bags fair Manila sold at from 4½*d.* to 4¾*d.*, and wormy at from 3½*d.* to 4½*d.* per lb.

IPECACUANHA.—Firmly held. A few bales of Rio (Matto Grosso) sold at from 6*s.* to 6*s.* 1*d.* per lb., the higher

figure being paid for good bright natural root; the bulk of the Matto Grosso was taken out at from 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. (Rio) Minas was obtainable at 6s. for fair cultivated. Three bales of very ordinary woody Cartagena sold without reserve at 4s. 9d. per lb., and 5 bales of good sound native-picked East Indian sold at 5s. 10d. A string of 32 bales of this description formerly sea-damaged, but from which the damaged portion had been removed, sold at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d., damaged bringing 5s. 1d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. Privately Cartagena is quoted 5s. to 5s. 3d., and Rio at 6s. 3d. Excellent deliveries of ipecac., amounting to 152 packages all descriptions, have been made from the warehouse this month.

JALAP.—A parcel of 20 bales had not arrived in time for the show, but it was partly disposed of privately at 6d. per lb. net; for shipment 5½d., c.i.f., is quoted.

KOLA.—Fair bright West Indian (6 bags) sold at from 4¾d. to 5d., and very mouldy at 4d. per lb.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Commercial quality from Melbourne sold without reserve at from 9d. to 9¾d., and inferior at 8d. per lb. For fair, 1s. 1d. was asked, and part of a parcel had been sold privately at this price.

OIL, LIME.—A case of fair West Indian distilled realised 1s. 5d. per lb.

OIL, ORANGE.—A case containing 8 bottles of bitter and 1 of sour sold without reserve at 6s. per lb.

RHUBARB.—Slow of sale. Four cases small to bold flat High-dried, with three-quarters good pinky fracture, sold at 1s. per lb., at which sales have been made privately. Three cases small flat ditto sold at 10d. Two cases Shensi pickings of good colour sold at 1s. 5d., and round and flat rough pickings at 1s. 2d. A case of very bold flat Shensi, rather dullish coat, but three-quarters good pinky fracture, sold at 1s. 11d.; and round small, part trimming root, at 1s. 11d. A case of medium to bold flat Shensi, slight wormy, sold without reserve at 10d., and a case of round wormy at 11½d. Good bold round Shensi, with three-quarters pinky fracture and nice orange coat, was taken out at 3s. 6d., the broker intimating that he had a pocket-order at 2s. 9d. Of Canton 4 cases of medium flat sold at 1s., round and flat small 10½d., pickings 7d. to 8d., and very low pickings 5d. per lb.

SANDARAC.—For a new parcel of Australian 72s. 6d. was wanted.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica was about 1d. per lb. cheaper, 42 bales selling at 1s. per lb. for fair sound, and 9d. to 10d. for sea-damaged. From another catalogue 8 bales sound were limited at 1s. 3d., and 10 bales sea-damaged sold at from 9¾d. to 11d. Practically all the Lima-Jamaica sold, including coarse and part chunky at 10d. to 10¾d., and sea-damaged 8½d. to 9¾d. Five bales native red were taken out at 10d. per lb. Privately Mexican is very scarce, and price has advanced to 8d. on the spot. In New York 7¾d. to 7½d. per lb., c.i.f. London, is quoted.

SENA.—Supplies of Tinnevely were much lessened to-day, good greenish leaf selling at rather lower prices, while common to medium grades were about ¼d. per lb. dearer. The following prices were paid: Bold greenish 4d. to 4½d., medium ditto 3d. to 3½d., and medium and small partly specky 2½d. to 2¾d. per lb. Pods sold at 1¾d. A shipment of 273 bales per Persia will probably be offered at the next auction.

STICKLAC.—Good free Bombay sold at from 7d. 5s. to 7d. 7s. 6d., and blocky at 7d. per cwt.

TONKA BEANS.—Rather cheaper, small to medium fair frosted Para selling at 1s. 3d. per lb.

WAX, BEES'.—There was a good demand for Zanzibar wax, some 135 packages selling at from 6d. 12s. 6d. to 6d. 15s. per cwt. for fair even brown block and fine Mozambique rolls. Of Madagascar 37 packages offered and sold at 7d. 2s. 6d. for good black slightly wormy, and 6d. 15s. for dark wormy. Four bags good Australian brought 6d. 15s., and 26 packages Jamaica were bought in at from 7d. 12s. 6d. to 8d. per cwt. Two barrels sold at 7d. 10s. for fair to good red and brown mixed.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Good squares are now quoted 72s. per cwt. on the spot, which figure has been paid.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, October 29:—Carnauba-wax is firmer. Ergot is quiet, and ipecacuanha and cocaine are both firm. The demand for calumba has improved.

SMYRNA:—The market-price for current talequale opium is 8s. 3d. per lb., f.o.b., and a large business is expected to be done at 8s.

NEW YORK:—The business-tone is good. Opium remains an easy market at \$320 per lb. in single cases. Quinine is strong at 25c. per oz., and cascara is quiet at 18c. per lb. Mexican sarsaparilla is very scarce at 15c. per lb., and ergot is firm at 45c. per lb. Peppermint oil is firm at \$2.85 per lb. for tin oil, and senega is quiet at 75c. per lb.

Heavy Chemicals.

A good all round and, if anything, more extensive business has been transacted in the heavy-chemical market since last writing, for exports are good considering the season, and home-trade demand shows an improvement. The recent firmer tone has been well maintained both for prompt and forward requirements, and prices generally rule steady, with greater tendency towards advancement rather than decline.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder is moving well, more particularly on old contracts, and although position is firmer for forward requirements, prices nominally standing at 4d. 5s. to 4d. 15s. per ton, f.o.r. or f.o.b., low figures are still accepted for the few orders there are on prompt account. Caustic soda is in good demand, and there is a brisk inquiry for forward, for which present prices are being steadily adhered to. Ammonia alkali easily maintains a strong position, and demand keeps up well. Soda crystals are steady. Prussiates are firmer, and advancing tendency maintained. Chlorates easy.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA keeps steady, and there does not seem much likelihood of any early and appreciable decline. Amount of business passing is somewhat heavier. Present nearest values: Beekton, 12d. 10s. for prompt and 12d. 15s. for forward; Beekton terms, 12d. 7s. 6d.; London, 12d. 7s. 6d.; Leith, 12d. 7s. 6d.; and Hull, 12d. 5s.

GREEN COPPERAS has not improved at all since last mentioned. Demand is distinctly on the quiet side, but quotations are nevertheless nominally unchanged. Best Lancashire makes 42s. 6d. to 45s. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, and Welsh, 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. per ton in bulk, free on rails.

PEARL-HARDENING keeps in average request at recent rates of 60s. to 65s. per ton in usual casks, f.o.r. or f.o.b.

SOUTH DURHAM SALT is without improvement in demand, and price has declined to 10s. per ton, f.o.b. Tees.

RECOVERED SULPHUR varies in price somewhat, but the strong tone ruling for some time past is well maintained and seems likely to be. 5d. 5s. to 5d. 15s. per ton, according to circumstances, and free on rails in bags, are ruling figures.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, October 28.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—The paragraph in our report last week referred to Para balsam, and not Maranham description.

CANADA BALSAM.—Reports from abroad indicate that there is likely to be a great scarcity of this, and higher prices will probably be realised before long, holders being firm in their views.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Still in good demand, as high as 83s. having been paid for grey, 90s. to 92s. 6d. for medium, and up to 105s. for yellow. Owing to the good demand we may possibly see still higher prices.

CASTOR OIL.—Business has been done over next year at slightly higher prices, though the price on the spot remains unchanged. In good seconds Calcutta very little business is passing, shippers being firm at recent quotations.

COD-LIVER OIL.—There has been a farther small arrival, but practically all has gone against contracts. Some shippers are offering further small quantities, but there are no buyers to be found at the high prices asked.

CORIANDER-SEED.—Owing to scarcity of good seed prices are still further advancing, holders being firm in their ideas, at from 17s. to 18s.

GUINEA-GRAINS.—Still scarce on the spot, small sales having taken place on private terms.

IRISH MOSS.—No common is now available on the spot, and there appears difficulty in getting further supplies. There is only medium quality offering at 14s. to 20s.

QUILLATA-BARK.—Small sales have taken place at recent quotations, from 21d. 10s. to 22d. per ton being still asked.

OLIVE OIL.—Reports come to hand that there is likely to be a good season in all quarters, and the quality of the oil is likely to be very good.

SPERMACETI.—Small sales have taken place in fine Chilean on private terms. Holders are still firm in their ideas from 11½d. to 1s. 0½d.

Dealings in Patents.

AT the Worship Street Police Court, on October 24, before Mr. Haden Corser, the hearing of the charge against James Lloyd Davies (37), chemist and druggist, trading as Thomas & Co., the Drug-stores, 411 Mare Street, Hackney, N.E.; Arthur Levy (61), general dealer, Homerton; and William Fordham, otherwise Peake (57), comb-maker, Hackney, for being concerned together in feloniously receiving 595 boxes of Scott's liver-pills, Dr. Williams's pink pills, and Beecham's pills, and 360 vials of Carter's little liver-pills, value 50*l.*, the property of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited), Leman Street, Whitechapel, E. Previous hearings were reported in our issues of October 17 (page 639) and October 24 (page 684).

George Oldham, manager of the packing department at the factory of Mr. Thomas Beecham, St. Helens, Lancashire, said that in May last his attention was drawn to an advertisement in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Supplement, in which Thomas & Co. were offering for sale Beecham's pills at 9*s.* 3*d.* a dozen. The lowest price at which Beecham's pills could be sold was 9*s.* 6*d.*, so witness instructed their London representative to go to Thomas & Co. and buy four boxes, which were forwarded to witness and examined. Each box bore the firm's special mark, showing that they had been originally sold to the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The Magistrate: This advertisement in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST appears to have played so important a part in founding the prosecution that it had better be put in the depositions. A copy of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Supplement of May 16 was therefore handed in, and duly marked by the Magistrate.

Continuing, witness said that on October 19 a police-sergeant showed him eleven boxes of Beecham's pills which bore the private mark "B 406." The Co-operative Wholesale Society had a consignment with that mark on April 29, and the only other firm that had pills so marked was R. Hovenden & Sons (Limited), of Berners Street, Oxford Street, W.C. The Co-operative Wholesale Society were the only customers of Beecham's who had reported to them any loss of pills.

By Mr. Freke Palmer (who defended Davies): Every box of Beecham's pills was wrapped in a pamphlet, and the private mark like "B 406" would be on 10,000 pamphlets, and "B 407" on the next 10,000. The Co-operative Wholesale Society had sixty dozen of "B 406," and Hovenden's the same quantity, leaving 8,500 boxes that went to country firms.

Mr. Freke Palmer: Then the boxes produced in court might be part of either the 8,500, or Hovenden's, and not out of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's lot at all?

Witness: Exactly; but then of each number found the Co-operative Wholesale Society had some.

Mr. Freke Palmer: Is it part of your duty to read THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST advertisements, as you did this one?—Witness: No; it was pointed out to me.

Mr. Freke Palmer: What was there peculiar about it?—

Witness: Offering Beecham's at 9*s.* 3*d.*

Mr. Freke Palmer: Have you never heard of a chemist overstocked selling pills under price?—Witness: Not our pills. I cannot speak for other patents.

Mr. Freke Palmer: Do you seriously suggest it has never been done?—Witness: It was done by a man two years ago.

Mr. Freke Palmer: Ah! Then you do know of a previous instance?—Witness: Yes, and that man got six months for doing it. (Laughter.)

Mr. Freke Palmer objected to the last part of the answer going on the depositions; but the Magistrate said that by the law of evidence a person asking a question must abide by the answer, and "half an answer" could not go on the depositions.

Mr. Freke Palmer: He was going beyond the limit of the question, and the statement is very damaging to my client. The Magistrate: So is most of the evidence already given.

George Welch, of 149 Cold Harbour Lane (the London representative of Beecham's), and John Boddy (his office-boy) gave evidence as to the purchase of the four boxes. The price paid was 10*½**l.* a box, the ordinary stores price.

John Walter Edmunds, confidential clerk in the employ of Messrs. John Morgan Richards & Sons (Limited), of Holborn Viaduct, E.C., said that his firm were the pro-

prietors in England of Dr. Williams's pink pills. In May last he saw the advertisement of Thomas & Co. in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Supplement, and he went to 411 Mare Street, Hackney, where he saw the prisoner Davies. He told Davies he had seen the advertisement, and wished to purchase some of the pills. Davies at first said, "I am sold out"; but added, "Are you a chemist?" Witness said he had come from one, and gave a name, whereupon Davies said, "I will see what I can do." He went to the back of the shop, and produced a dozen packets Carter's pills, which witness bought at 10*s.* 6*d.*, and a dozen Dr. Williams's pink pills, for which witness paid 23*s.*, which was the correct trade price. Davies then said he had no Beecham's. Witness then pretended to carelessly ask if Davies had been buying any bankrupt stock, to which Davies said, "Oh, no. I am overstocked, for I bought very largely two years ago, anticipating a good retail trade, but was deceived, and they have been on my hands since." Witness produced the dozen of Dr. Williams's pink pills which Davies sold him, and which he had said he had had two years. Inside was the packing date, showing it was not packed till April 23, 1903. Witness said that, on that discovery, he went to the prisoner Davies and bought another dozen at the same price, and inside the packing date was May 27, 1903. On September 9 witness went a third time, but did not see Davies. He, however, saw the assistant, and bought from him another dozen at 23*s.*, and the packing date was July 3, 1903, which was actually five weeks after the date of witness's first interview. On this witness gave certain instructions to a packer of the firm's respecting the making up of a specially marked test parcel of pills.

By Mr. Freke Palmer: He declined to state the name of the chemist he told Davies he came from, but would admit that it was not the truth to say he had come from a chemist except that his firm were wholesale druggists and could be called chemists. Davies denied the suggestion that he bought these pills from a man who bought up bankrupt stocks, but said that he had overstocked two years previously.

Robert James Eade, a packer in the employ of Messrs. John Morgan Richards & Sons (Limited), said that, in accordance with the last witness's instructions, he put a special mark in the form of a large red "full stop" after the price on twenty-four dozen boxes of Dr. Williams's pink pills. On July 21 the twenty-four dozen were delivered by witness personally to the Co-operative Wholesale Society. On October 21 he was shown three cases by a detective, and could positively swear that they were part of the twenty-four dozen he specially marked.

The prisoners were again remanded.

Messrs. Davies & Co., 393, 454, and 560 Commercial Road, E wish it to be known that they have nothing whatever to do with the defendant (Davies) in this action.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

FORMULARY COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Committee was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Thursday, October 22, at 4.30 p.m. Present: Messrs. N. H. Martin, Harold Wilson, H. Wilson (Southampton), W. A. H. Naylor, F. Ransom, J. C. Umney, and F. C. J. Bird.

Mr. N. H. Martin was unanimously re-elected Chairman and Mr. Bird Hon. Secretary.

On Mr. Martin resuming the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the Committee proceeded with the further consideration of proposed new formulas. Specimens illustrating many of these had been prepared and stored under usual conditions for some months in order to test their stability and keeping-properties. Certain points in some processes gave rise to considerable discussion. In one or two instances the formulas were referred back to the authors for further experiment. Several improved processes were adopted for preparations already in the Formulary. Synonyms were inserted, and slight alterations made in some of the formulas approved at the last meeting.

The experimental work of the Committee is nearing its completion, so that the material for another edition of the "B.P.C. Formulary" will probably be ready at an early date.

Blaud's Pills.

By our Paris Correspondent.

[Early this year some interesting particulars were printed in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (May 2, page 719) as to the origin and proprietorship of Blaud's pills. Later on the question of the identity of pil. ferri, B.P., with Blaud's pills came before a metropolitan magistrate in a prosecution under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Counsel for the defence failed to convince the Magistrate that Blaud's pills were not necessarily identical with pil. ferri, B.P., and that there are still proprietary rights in Blaud's pills.]

THE Place des Vosges, wherein is situated the Paris dépôt of Blaud's pills, is best reached by taking the Paris "Metro" to the station of St. Paul, close to the Bastille. Five minutes' walk brings one into the quaint old square, with its high-pitched Louis XIII. roofs and its arcades, where (in the days when it was still the Place Royale) the boots of the "Three Musketeers" echoed, and Pascal and Descartes discoursed of natural philosophy in the central garden.

Under the arcades, only a door or two from the house where Victor Hugo lived for many years (now a museum of souvenirs of the poet), I found M. Sciorelli in a ground-floor office. He was just back from Brittany and a motor-car tour, he explained—everyone, of course, has been away at theseaside—and was making up for lost time with conspicuous energy. But presently clerk and porter had received their final instructions. He had courteously invited me to be seated. I had had leisure to admire amongst other things the office inkstand, ornamented by a bronze figure of an athlete with the huge dumb-bells which so often figure in the Blaud advertisements.

My first question was regarding the present proprietors of the formula, and their descent from Dr. Blaud. These family matters were necessarily a little complicated, and as M. Sciorelli, I understand, is not a relative, he had only a "business" knowledge of the heredity. But the main facts are as follows.

Dr. Blaud, who died at Beaucuire in 1858, and was the originator of the pill, had it prepared by his nephew Auguste Blaud, who took his pharmaceutical degree at Paris, but resided and carried on business at Beaucuire (Gard). This nephew died some five or six years ago. He left a daughter, who married a M. Durand, but who appears to have kept up the name (*Durand-Blaud*) for business purposes. She had two children, one of whom has since died. The daughter of M. A. Blaud ran the business for one year (the limit fixed by French law) after her father's death, but her children being still minors it was necessary to carry on the manufacture through a manager. All this is complicated by a lawsuit, which, being still unfinished, renders the exact situation anything but clear. It is, however, evident that M. Sciorelli (who is a doctor of chemistry and pharmacy) is the leading spirit and practical proprietor of the business, so far as Paris and the general distributing work is concerned. An energetic man and still young, he has worked his way up by his personal exertions, and announces his intention "once this litigation is finished" of asserting the exclusive right of the heirs and successors of Dr. Blaud to the name of the inventor.

"What is the exact formula of your pill?" I asked. "Is it secret, or is it that published in the Codex?"

"You have only to refer to the label," he replied, and he showed me samples in more languages than I could recognise, much less read. "But it doesn't matter if they're in French, Spanish, Portuguese or English," said he; "they're an exact translation one of the other, and all bear the statement: 'Every pill contains 25 cgm. of sulphate of iron and 25 cgm. of carbonate of potash.'"

"That is what Dr. Blaud wrote in 1832," I remarked. "But is it the entire formula?"

"We have our own 'tour du main,' our trade secret," said he, "which, we claim, renders our pill the best, because the most soluble."

"But the Codex formula?"

"Would give a less soluble and, in consequence, an inferior pill."

The point seems to be that the protecting ingredients and the excipient ordered in the Codex render the pills less

soluble. The original makers claim that with 25 cgm. of each ingredient they make 50-cgm. pills unalterable and effective.

"I may tell you," he resumed, "that we have (through the Union des Fabricants, which safeguards trade-marks as you know) approached the Codex committee with a view

As a security of the genuineness of my product, the bottles shall bear the stamp of the Union des Fabricants pour la repression de la contrefaçon.

BLAUD'S PILLS
OF INALTERABLE PROTO-CARBONATE OF IRON
A SPECIFIC FOR THE CURE OF CHLOROSIS OR GREEN-SICKNESS,
Invented by

D^r BLAUD

Corresponding Member of the French Academy of Medicine,
and prepared from the Doctors' Original Formula
by his Nephew, **Auguste BLAUD**,
Pharmaceutical Chemist in the Faculty of Paris, at Beaucuire.

Every pill contains 25 centigr. of sulphate of iron and 25 centigr. of carbonate of potash.

SOLD IN BOTTLES AT 5 FRS. EACH.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In order to keep D^r BLAUD'S FERRUGINOUS PILLS from the action of the air, and to preserve them for any length of time as well as to secure the public from all danger of being imposed upon by spurious imitations of this invaluable specific, Mr. AUGUSTE BLAUD, the Inventor's nephew, has the honor to inform the Medical Profession and all Dealers in Patent Medicines:

1. That all D^r Blaud's Pills prepared in his laboratory are sold only in black glass bottles of a cylindrical form with the Inventor's certificate sealed over the cork;
2. That a reduction pasted on each bottle of the white paper label is contained in the directions given with it.
3. That every bottle is enclosed in a glazed green paper wrapper bearing his signature, and sealed in red wax with the above impression;
4. And lastly, that, to prevent all fraudulent imitations, specimens of the bottles, labels, seals, etc., have been delivered into the Record-office of the Tribunal of Commerce.

to suppressing the sub-title ('Pilulæ Blaud') in the next edition. Let them call their pills 'pilules ferrugineuses,' or 'de carbonate de fer,' and leave us the name which is our own property."

"But as you have not claimed this property, has not the title fallen into the 'domain publique.'"

"By no means; and those who use it may find it out to their cost one of these days. Oh, yes, I know the name Blaud is used in the most indiscriminate fashion. Just let me show you this little collection."

And out from a handy pigeonhole came circulars, Spanish, American, and in all languages, where dozens of "Blaud's pills" were specified.

"But I've made a start. I've had a man prosecuted and convicted already in Italy; and when matters are put straight" (this referred to the family lawsuit I understood) "I shall go ahead and gradually assert my rights in every country. You know our label and mark have been deposited at the Tribunal de Commerce for long years since. It was first deposited as Nimes (I haven't the date), but here are the 'renewals' for 1866 and 1895."

"Then you claim an absolute monopoly in the name Blaud?"
"Most decidedly. For instance, Blancard's pills are in the Codex, but the proper name does not appear; they are simply iodide-of-iron pills. I only ask to be treated in the same way. Between ourselves, at the time Dr. Blaud arranged to have his name in the Codex, it was rather advantageous than otherwise. At that epoch 'patents' were little known, and the fact that a medicament was in the Codex gave it a certain stamp of importance. But we have changed all that nowadays."

DO YOU KNOW?—THE 1904 CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY is being looked forward to with particular interest by the trade on account of the very valuable information it will contain about the new interpretation of the Medicine-stamp Acts. It will be the most popular DIARY we have ever published. If you do not subscribe to the C. & D., do so now.

The United States Pharmacopœia, 1900.

By CARL S. N. HALLBERG, Ph.G., M.D., Chicago,
Member of the Committee of Revision.

THE revision of the Pharmacopœia, begun by the committee elected at the decennial convention in Washington in 1900, is progressing as rapidly as is warranted by the importance and magnitude of the work.

The committee lost in 1901 its Chairman, Dr. Charles Rice, pharmacist to the Department of Public Charities and Corrections of New York, who had since 1880 filled that position with especial credit, and suffered further loss in the death of a life-long worker, Dr. Edward R. Squibb, of Brooklyn. The death of the Chairman at a critical point of the work caused some delay until the vacancy was filled by Professor Joseph P. Remington, of Philadelphia. Partly due to this fact, but mostly owing to the many important questions, never before confronting a committee of revision, requiring solution, the work of revision has been more than usually delayed, so that the book will in all probability not appear until the spring of 1904. The official life of the U.S.P. will therefore not be synchronous with its decennial designation (1900-10), which, however, is not of any especial significance.

THE SUB-COMMITTEES.

As an indication of the scope and character of the work of revision, the enumeration of the following sub-committees, and the subjects allotted to each, may be of interest:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Therapeutics | 8. Extracts, tinctures, &c. |
| 2. Posology | 9. Aromatic waters and spirits |
| 3. Botany and pharmacognosy | 10. Cerates and allied compounds |
| 4. General and inorganic chemistry | 11. Syrups and elixirs |
| 5. Organic chemistry; also fixed oils and fats | 12. Miscellaneous galenicals |
| 6. Proximate assays | 13. Weights and measures |
| 7. Volatile oils and allied substances | 14. Scope and statistics |
| | 15. Nomenclature |

LIMITATION OF PURITY.

Among the most important subjects for consideration, and one which heretofore has received but little attention, was the limitation of purity of medicinal chemicals. To the medical mind the propriety of this question may well appear doubtful. Why should there be any limitation? Only the purest is sufficient for medicinal uses, or for the purposes of the physician. The proposition is, however, not so simple since there are certain requirements of a practical character which must be taken into consideration. The U.S.P. now official (1890) required for a number of largely used chemicals a greater degree of purity than was obtainable by ordinary chemical processes, and it is claimed by reputable manufacturers that the standard is attainable only by such expensive processes as necessarily to increase the cost of products, and in some instances is almost prohibitive.

It should be clearly understood, however, that these impurities comprised mostly the presence of very small quantities, sometimes 1 per cent. or less, of sulphates and chlorides in bromides, iodides, phosphates, and similar salts, the contention on the part of manufacturers being that the removal of such traces of these foreign salts would be exceedingly difficult, and since their presence could have no possible therapeutic significance, their absolute removal would be a useless expenditure.

Some instances were cited in support of the contention that the presence of even slight traces of foreign salts, innocuous of themselves, might under certain conditions produce entirely unexpected results; thus, for example, when potassium bromide is prescribed with barium chloride in watery solution, there will be a precipitate of the insoluble barium sulphate in the presence of the slightest trace of the sulphate in the KBr. Such instances are, however, exceedingly rare, and do not impair the position that mere traces of such impurities in these salts should not be excluded by the U.S.P.

Another reason for not getting the standard too high is

that it is impracticable to have two standards official, and since the pure food and drug laws in some states refer to the U.S.P. as the standard, druggists and dealers would be liable to prosecution for selling chemicals for commercial and technical purposes where so high purity is not required, which deviate from the official standards of purity. Such prosecution, mostly ill-advised, has been frequent in Ohio, and has been carried on to such an extent in the United Kingdom as to make such laws exceedingly unpopular and alienating the support of a large otherwise law-abiding element.

In quite a different category is the degree of purity as related to freedom from poisonous compounds, frequently contaminating medicinal chemicals. Compounds of poisonous elements such as arsenic, copper, lead, tin, derived from the crude products in the process of manufacture, cannot be too rigidly excluded. That no convenience of manufacturers, or additional cost, no matter how great, will have any influence on the standards of purity required by the U.S.P. in these particulars is a foregone conclusion.

ISOLATED PRINCIPLES.

The question of substitution of isolated principles for natural products has come to the front largely during the present decade. Many of the volatile oils are mixtures of certain principles, such as the oils of eucalyptus, caryophyllus, cinnamon, gaultheria, betula, and sassafras. While the pharmacology on these articles is meagre, it is assumed that the principal principles represent the therapeutic virtues of the respective oils, and that, since these vary considerably in the amount of the principles contained, it is considered that greater accuracy and uniformity would be secured by the substitution of these principles for the natural oils. Among the principles of these and similar classes likely to be admitted to the U.S.P. are: Menthol, creosote carbonate, guaiacol and guaiacol carbonate, eugenol, benzoic and cinnamic aldehydes, and saffrol. Eucalyptol and methyl salicylate are now official.

SYNTHETIC PRODUCTS.

The admission of synthetic products controlled by patent or proprietary rights has also received much attention. The ethical medical position is unequivocally opposed to the recognition of any substance whose composition is secret, or the manufacture of which is in any manner not free; and yet medical men—even the very highest authorities—prescribe them and exploit them in the journals. While the Pharmacopœia is supposed to have ignored them, such is not the case. The first synthetic medicinal chemical made by a patented process—salicylic acid—was admitted to the U.S.P. 1880. In the present U.S.P. (1890) there are recognised of this class, in addition, salol and lanolin, although under a name different from the trade-name. On this point the instruction of the decennial Convention of 1900 to the Committee of Revision was as follows:

The Committee of Revision is authorised to admit into the Pharmacopœia any product of Nature of known origin; also any synthesised product of definite composition which is in common use by the medical profession, the identity, purity, or strength of which can be determined. No compound or mixture shall be introduced if the composition or mode of manufacture thereof be kept secret, or if it be controlled by unlimited proprietary rights.

The committee, desiring to adhere to the spirit, if not strictly to the letter, of the instructions of the Convention, after considerable deliberation decided "to admit those substances for which there is, or may be, a product or process patent which expires during this decade (*i.e.*, 1900-10), carrying with it the expiration of the trade-marked name, as distinguished from a symbol or device."

According to this none that are patented will be admitted if their trade-mark does not expire with their patent, and none that are trade-marked without being patented. Should legal advice conclude that trade-marked names expire with the patents, then only such that are patented will be admitted whose patents expire before 1910. Among those proposed for admission under this decision are: Chloralamide, ethyl carbamate, hexamethylene-tetramine, iodol, methylene blue, phenacetin, piperazin, saccharin, phenyl salicylate (salol now official), sulphonol, trional, aristol, and salophen. The following would be excluded: Creosote carbonate, eucaïne, heroin, holocain, ichthyol, methyl acetanilide, and orthoform.

ALKALOIDAL ASSAYS.

The U.S.P. 1890 requires a certain alkaloidal standard for opium and cinchona, and the preparations of opium and nux vomica. These tests will be largely extended, and assay processes, fixing a standard of alkaloidal strength for the preparations of the following drugs, have been proposed:

Opium, cinchona, and nux vomica.
Belladonna, hyoscyamus, and stramonium.
Coca, guarana, and kola.
Physostigma, ipecac., hydrastis, colchicum, pilocarpus, conium, and jalap.

ANTITOXIN.

One of the most difficult questions for the committee to solve has been the admission of diphtheritic antitoxin. The principle of the Pharmacopœia heretofore has been that, inasmuch as the pharmacist is charged with the responsibility of maintaining the standards of identity, purity, quality, and strength of all articles official, the Pharmacopœia must provide such definitions, descriptions, tests, and assay processes as will enable him to determine whether or not the articles recognised by the Pharmacopœia respond to the official requirements. Since no biologic or pharmacologic tests have ever been admitted to any Pharmacopœia, presumably because these were not within the province of pharmaceutical practice, the admission of any article whose purity and potency could not be determined except through biologic methods appeared to be an insurmountable obstacle to the admission of any biologic product, and the Convention therefore declared "that physiological tests for determining strength should not be introduced by the committee."

Owing, however, to the transcendent importance of the question of antitoxin, and inasmuch as the instructions of the Convention was not directly mandatory, and especially in deference to the physicians on the committee who voiced the sentiment of the profession, evidently unanimous as to the desirability, if not necessity, for the admission of antitoxin, and in order that the U.S.P. 1900 may not be charged with indifference to the greatest remedial-agent of the decade it was to represent, the Committee of Revision decided to carefully consider the question. The matter was referred to a sub-committee consisting of the physician-members of the committee, together with a number of eminent specialists in this field, with the late Dr. Walter Reed as chairman. Owing to the untimely and sad death of Dr. Reed, Dr. Theobald Smith was subsequently chosen to act as chairman, and this committee is now formulating a plan by which the antidiphtheritic serum will in all probability be admitted to the U.S.P. on a plan somewhat similar to that of the German Pharmacopœia of 1900.

POSIOLOGY.

The question of dosage has always been a bugbear to pharmacists. Some (without being able to formulate the proposition "What is a dose?" in the terse manner of Dr. S. Solis-Cohen, "The dose is enough") have felt that the Pharmacopœia was trenching on dangerous ground in endeavouring to adopt an authoritative list of doses. It was charged, however, that the lack of such dose-list from the only legal authority on medicines materially lessened its value to the practitioners, and that such should be incorporated. The sentiment of the Convention being almost unanimous on the question, the committee was instructed to state the average approximate adult dose, and, where deemed advisable, also for children, after all articles which are used or likely to be used internally. These are to be given in metric quantities as well as in approximate customary weights and measures. It is to be the distinct understanding that these doses are not to be regarded as obligatory, and may be exceeded by the physician whenever in his judgment desirable, and a declaration to that effect is to be prominently made in the book. Its purpose then is simply to serve as an authoritative guide and reference to pharmacists and physicians.

NOMENCLATURE.

While the aim of the Pharmacopœia is to adhere to a scientific nomenclature, it cannot invariably do so. To change old familiar titles of some chemicals so as to conform to the modern chemical nomenclature would create confusion, be inconvenient in prescribing and dispensing, and impair the usefulness of the alphabetical arrangement.

Carbolic acid, for example, would appear as "phenol," arsenous acid as "arsenic trioxid" and chromic acid as "chromic trioxid," if the chemical nomenclature be strictly observed. Since the scientific names are invariably appended as synonyms for such titles as well as for such articles as may be admitted under trade-names, there can be no objection to such deviation from the scientific nomenclature in the official titles as may be determined for the greater safety and convenience of physicians and pharmacists. Sometimes the title appears in contradiction to the chemical name without apparent justification, as in "chloral" of the U. S. P. 1890, which should have been "chlorealis hydras," choral being a liquid, the hydrate of which is the well-known crystalline solid. The best reasons, however, prompted this violation of chemical usage—namely, the belief that the use of the single word in prescribing would avoid the inevitable abbreviation of "chl. hyd." and thus prevent confusion with "chlorid. hydrarg.," and consequent errors and dispensing complications.

Formulas

for

"Known, Admitted, and Approved" Remedies.

[The first instalment was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, September 26.]

Diarrhœa-mixtures.

I.

(Board of Health Recipe.)

Pulv. conf. aromat. ... ʒiij.
Spt. ammon. arom. ... ʒiij.
Tr. catechu ... ʒx.
Tr. cardam. co. ... ʒvj.
Tr. opii ... ʒj.
Mist. cretæ ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls for an adult, one for a child twelve years old, and a dessertspoonful for child of seven.

II.

Chlorodyni ... ʒiij.
Ac. sulph. arom. ... ʒiij.
Aq. chlorof. ... ʒv.
Aq. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours until relieved.

III.

Salol. ... ʒij.
Bismuth. carb. ... ʒij.
Sodii bicarb. ... ʒiv.
Pulv. trag. co.... ʒij.
Tr. card. co. ... ʒj.
Aq. cinnam. ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours until relieved.

IV.

(For Children.)

Bismuthi salicylat. ... ʒiv.
Sodii bicarb. ... ʒiv.
Pulv. trag. co.... ʒij.
Tr. card. co. ... ʒj.
Syr. tolu. ... ʒiv.
Aq. cinnam. ad ... ʒxxx.

One or two teaspoonfuls every four hours, according to age.

Seasickness-mixture.

Potass. bromidi ... ʒiv.
Sodii bromidi... ʒij.
Ammonii bromidi ... ʒij.
Cocainæ hydrochlor.... gr. ij.
Syr. zingib. ... ʒij.
Aq. chloroformi ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls to be taken before going on board, and repeated in four hours if required.

Female-mixtures.

I.

Magnes. sulph. ... ʒiiss.
Tr. ferri perchlor. ... ʒj.
Glycerini ... ʒij.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

II.

Quinin. sulph. ... gr. xxx.
Tr. ferri perchlor. ... ʒvj.
Glycerini ... ʒiiss.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

III.

Dec. aloes co. conc. ... ʒiiss.
Spt. chloroformi ... ʒiv.
Mist. ferri co. B.P. ad ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

Gonorrhœa-mixtures.

I.

Sodii sulphat.... ʒij.
Potass. citrat.... ʒj.
Tr. hyoscyam. ... ʒj.
Glycerini ... ʒj.
Aq. chlorof. ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

II.

Bals. copaibæ ... ʒj.
Ol. cubebæ ... ʒj.
Spt. æther. nit. ... ʒj.
Liq. potassæ ... ʒij.
Tr. hyoscyam.... ʒvj.
Spt. chloroform. ... ʒij.
Inf. buchu ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

III.

Ol. santal. flav. ... ʒiv.
Spt. æther. nit. ... ʒj.
Liq. potassæ ... ʒij.
Tr. hyoscyam.... ʒj.
Inf. buchu ad ... ʒxxx.

Two tablespoonfuls three times a day.

Society of Chemical Industry.

Nottingham Section.

THE first meeting of the session of the Nottingham Section was held on October 23, at University College, Nottingham, and was arranged in conjunction with a meeting of the British Section of the International Association of Leather-trade Chemists that was held in Nottingham on the following day. There was a good attendance, amongst those present being Sir John Turney, Professor H. R. Procter, Dr. Hellon, Dr. J. Gordon Parker, Dr. F. S. Kipping, Messrs. Archbutt, Burford, Carulla, Paton, Pentecost, Trotman (Hon. Secretary), John White, and many other members of the two Societies.

Mr. J. T. Wood, the new Chairman of the Nottingham Section of the S.C.I., delivered an inaugural address, which he entitled

SCIENCE AND TANNING,

passing in review the progress made in the processes of tanning during the last eight years. Payne and Pullman's



MR. J. T. WOOD.

indirect process of "liming" was first referred to. It is of much scientific interest, as it consists in the production of calcium hydrate in the substance of the hide itself instead of working the skin in lime-liquors. The hides or skins are first treated with a solution of caustic soda, and then immersed in a solution of calcium chloride, the resulting reaction being represented by $2\text{NaOH} + \text{CaCl}_2 = \text{Ca(OH)}_2 + 2\text{NaCl}$. In this way the same amount of lime is introduced in a few hours as in a week by the old method.

Mr. Wood attributes the non-success of the process in some cases to the absence of bacterial action, which plays such an important part in the tanning-industry.

Passing from "liming" to "bating" the Chairman referred to the recent introduction of erodin, which takes the place of the undesirable dung-bate. The operation of "pickling" was next considered—a process that, as far as the speaker was aware, had been investigated in its scientific aspect by Procter only, expressing the opinion that "a systematic and thorough study of the physical behaviour of skin under the influence of acids and salts will prove a fertile field of discovery in the future." As an illustration of the importance of this subject, pickled skin will directly absorb chrome salts from a concentrated solution without damage to the fibre of the skin.

The bacteriology of vegetable tan-liquors was also touched upon, and then Mr. Wood spoke of

THE TANNING-PROCESS PROPER.

The principal change in this is the large increase in the use of strong extracts, the most important being quebracho. Solid extracts made from this wood contain from 60 to 70 per cent. of tannin. A source of loss in the use of these solid extracts—namely, the difficultly soluble tannins—has been done away with by a recent patent process whereby the wood is treated with bisulphite of soda. The speaker continued: "In connection with the vegetable tanning-process I would suggest a great problem for our organic chemists in the synthetic production of tannin on analogous lines to the synthetic production of indigo. This is not a manufacturer's business: it is purely a question for the organic chemist. So far back as 1867 gallo-tannic acid was synthesised by Löwe by the action of silver nitrate on barium gallate, and it seems to me possible, considering the great advance which has been made in organic chemistry since that date, to produce commercially a pure gallo-tannic acid. Procter has shown, and I have fully confirmed his conclusions, that leather can be made by means of gallo-tannic acid, and if

this can be produced synthetically I foresee many important uses for leather tanned with it." (Specimens of leather thus manufactured were exhibited.)

The advances in chrome tanning were then referred to, the process finding increasing favour. The most modern views of the chemistry of the process were described, and Lamb and Spence's recently patented use of titanium salts for tanning were alluded to, fine specimens of this leather being also shown.

Buff or chamois leather is also being produced by Messrs. Pullman, of Godalming, by treating the skins with a mixture of formalin and sodium carbonate, the alkali being subsequently removed by means of ammonium sulphate. Formic acid, made commercially by a new process of Dr. Goldschmidt, of Berlin, is taking the place of sulphuric acid in leather-dyeing. On the other hand, the prediction of eight years ago that aniline-dyes would displace the old wood-colours in leather-dyeing has not come to pass. On the contrary, the wood-colours have been given a new lease of life by the introduction of their extracts and by the application of titanium salts as mordant.

Another matter of great importance referred to was the degreasing of leather by benzoline, the process being first introduced into this country by Sir John Turney. The early process was expensive, on account of the loss of solvent from the skins, which were simply dried in the open air. Mr. F. N. Turney, a brother of Sir John's, after numerous experiments, succeeded in constructing a plant by which the whole of the solvent is completely recovered both from the greasy residue and from the skins.

Mr. Wood concluded by a few remarks on the divergent views held as to the theory of tanning, and was heartily thanked for his address.

Three papers of interest to the leather-industry were then read.

STAMPED-MEDICINE NOTES.

From Material sent by "C. & D." Subscribers. More invited for the Common Good.

"Sore feet, blistered feet, galled feet," on the handbill of a foot-powder described as the best remedy for the above make the powder liable except it be stated that it is "prepared according to 'Pharmaceutical Formulas,'" or the composition is otherwise disclosed.

* * * *

A hair-wash label describes the preparation as serviceable "when from local disease a total loss of hair has resulted." The italicised words should not be used if duty is to be avoided.

* * * *

"Prevents the formation of dandruff . . . the presence of which always denotes diseased action in the cuticle of the scalp." "Dandruff" is not considered an ailment, but such an elaboration of it as this holds out the hair-wash for a disorder "incident to the human body," and the Revenue authorities can have no option but to insist on duty being paid or the exemption applied.

* * * *

"A skin-lotion, banishes all blotches," and as eczema is a blotch the lotion is made dutiable by that expression.

* * * *

Cascara capsules, "most useful in habitual constipation"; from a stock label. The capsules contain fluid extract of cascara sagrada. The letters 'B.P.' should follow the title.

* * * *

Sulphur tablets, "unrivalled as a blood-purifier and spring medicine." The italicised words bring the preparation within the charge of duty. Registered chemists may use the label if they disclose the composition.

* * * *

Last week's note on the entire-drugs exemption brings us from Mr. William Forster, of Seaham Harbour, an envelope labelled as follows (with directions and name in addition):

HEADACHE, TIC, AND NEURALGIA POWDER.

(A pure drug.)

Mr. Forster says "such information cannot possibly affect the maker nor enlighten the public, whilst it does inform an Inland Revenue officer why it is not stamped."



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Paris Centenary.

Eugène Léger, Pharmacien en chef de l'Hôpital Beaujon, Président de la Société de Pharmacie de Paris, remercie M. le Rédacteur du CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST pour le compte-rendu si complet et si exact qu'il a publié sur la célébration de notre centenaire.

[Translation.]

Eugène Léger, Chief Pharmacist at the Beaujon Hospital, President of the Paris Society of Pharmacy, thanks the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for the full and accurate report which he has published of the celebration of our centenary.

Pharmaceutical Society v. Alexander Cross & Sons (Limited).

SIR,—We observe in your issue of October 24 that you state that the Judges of the First Division have ordered intimation of the stated case and answers within eight days. This is an error. No answers are needed to a stated case, as the Sheriff states therein the facts proved and the grounds of judgment. The Appellate Court has thus placed before it the case on both sides. We make this correction in case it might be thought that our clients had failed "to lodge answers within eight days."

We are, Sir, your obedient Servants,
Edinburgh, October 27. P. MORISON & SON.

The Medicine-stamp Act.

SIR,—I am quite sure that the whole pharmaceutical calling, both wholesale and retail, is much indebted to you for the clear exposition of their respective positions as set out in the leading article in your last issue (October 24, pages 692 and 693). It is clear—

1. That by the Medicine-stamp Act of 1785 certain exemptions were allowed to those who were qualified by apprenticeship to the business of a chemist and druggist.
2. That this exemption was confirmed by the ammoniated-quinine case of 1902-3.
3. That this exemption was, in the first instance, based upon the education of the chemist and druggist, and his knowledge of those remedies which he sold as curative for certain ailments.
4. That the conditions of trade have altered very considerably since the framing of that exemption, and especially during the past few years.
5. It is certain that, for an exemption to be of any practical business use, the retailer must have it in his power to call upon the wholesaler to supply him with remedies of known, tried, and approved formulæ.

This is the position of the retailer. What is the position of the wholesaler?

So far as I am able to determine by reading the Acts and by published information bearing on them, the position of the wholesaler depends entirely upon the construction of the Act. As you have so ably stated, however, "though there are many references in the statutes which show that a maker or first vendor of a dutiable medicine must stamp the article, these are all sequential to the incidence of the charge of duty." In other words, if an exemption to a qualified chemist and druggist is of any avail whatever, then the preparations that he sells under ailment-names or with a recommendation are exempt from duty, and therefore, as in their condition of sale they are not dutiable, the wholesaler in passing them to the duly qualified retailer, notwithstanding that he may be the first vendor or utterer of them, in accordance with the words of the Act, is not liable.

If he were liable, what would be the logical position? If a duly qualified chemist and druggist applied to his

wholesale druggist for a supply of a particular ailment-named remedy, which was to bear his name and address, and which was prepared in accordance with a known, admitted, and approved formula, the wholesale druggist would be called upon to stamp the medicine and pass it to the retail chemist and druggist, who in his turn could sell it without a patent-medicine stamp, but would be committing an offence to remove the stamp from the same.

There are so many ways by which the difficulty can be obviated if the Act is to be construed in its strictest sense that will occur to anyone, that it appears it would be best to ask the Inland Revenue authorities to define exactly the position of the wholesaler who prepares or packs for the registered chemist and druggist an ailment-named remedy.

It is obvious that the provisions of the Act can be quite well complied with—e.g.:

1. If the partners in the wholesale drug-concern are themselves chemists and druggists.
2. If a separate business be made for the trade in "packed pharmaceuticals" bearing ailment-names under the nominal proprietorship of a duly qualified and therefore exempted member of a firm or possibly director of a company.
3. If the bottles containing ailment-named remedies be sent unlabelled to the chemist and druggist, and a definite charge made to him for preparing labels in accordance with his instructions, which could be forwarded to him by post or otherwise.

It does seem, therefore, that taking into consideration the whole of the facts, and that it was proved beyond doubt that Mr. Glyn-Jones did not himself prepare the ammoniated tincture of quinine for the sale and recommendation of which he sought exemption from medicine stamp-duty, that the Inland Revenue authorities should be asked to define the position of the wholesale dealer supplying the retail chemist and druggist on his request with ailment-named remedies of approved formulæ. The points to be decided, so far as I understand them, are the following:

- a. If the chemist and druggist has the right to sell such preparations without attaching a medicine-stamp, then, although the articles may be liable to duty when uttered by the wholesaler as the first vendor, there is exemption before they are passed to the public through the registered chemist and druggist.
- x. If the dutiability of the article be held to be proved before passing from the wholesaler to the registered chemist and druggist, how is the latter to operate? And must such trade in ailment-named packed pharmaceuticals cease, as it is a misdemeanour to remove the stamps from the packages after they have been once affixed?
- y. If it be decided that the wholesale druggist may not supply to the qualified retail chemist and druggist ailment-named cures without name and address of the chemist and druggist attached, who has the right of exemption, may he do so provided that the exempted person's name and address are affixed to the bottle?
- z. If none of these courses is available, would it not be better that the whole matter should be allowed to remain in abeyance, and on legal proceedings being in the first instance taken by the Revenue authorities the case should be defended by the Drug Trade Appeal Fund, which assuredly could be put to no more legitimate purpose?

If the principal point was not decided when it was shown that Mr. Glyn-Jones sold ammoniated tincture of quinine with a recommendation not prepared by himself, and obtained from a wholesale druggist, the sooner the point is decided, or the Act amended, the better. The opinions of your correspondents would be particularly valuable at this time, and I trust that you will be able to give publicity to this letter for that purpose.

Faithfully yours,
Southwark, London, JOHN C. UMNEY.
October 28.

Citral in Lemon Oil.

SIR,—Only now am I made aware of the protest raised in various recent numbers of your valuable journal with regard to the percentage of aldehydes present in oil of lemon, which percentage, according to the changed views of some chemists and the absolute confirmation of others, would no longer be contained in the proportion of from 6.5 per cent. to 7.40 per cent., but merely in that of 4 per cent., whilst others "would incline to put the figure even lower than 3.5 per cent." Had I known of the matter earlier, I should certainly have intervened long before in a question that concerns some analytical processes published by me in conjunction with Professor Soldani

which processes, whilst accepted by authoritative chemists ("Laboratorio Chimico centrale delle Gabelle di Roma," Dottor Fabris, anno 1900; "Atti del Congresso nazionale di Chimica applicata," Torino, 1902), are so vigorously criticised by other chemists, among whom I am rather surprised to find Mr. Parry as the promoter of the vigorous protest. However, whilst the former parties report experimental data, the latter seem to expect that the quantitative determination of aldehydes in oil of lemon should pretty nearly coincide with the industrial yield of terpeneless lemon oil, disregarding the various causes that may influence its variation, as pointed out since 1894—"Sull'analisi dell'Essenza di Limone—Tipografia Filomena." I do not propose just now to discuss the scientific reasons that should clearly explain the matter, what is wanted just now being the establishment of evidence as to whether the famous 7 per cent. is found or not by the potassium-bisulphite process of Soldaini and Berté, in order that, as has been suggested, this analytical process may be subjected "to the wholesome influence of skilled criticism."

It is well known that the potassium-bisulphite method is based upon a fundamental property of aldehydes, and up to this day is, I believe, the only method that gives results approximating to the truth. I am sure that Mr. Parry will admit that he has been none too precise when speaking of such a process as having been "emphatically condemned by many chemists, among whom are Schimmel & Co." In fact, Professors Gildemeister and Hoffmann, in their book on the volatile oils, hold as "very rational" the estimation of aldehydes by means of sodium bisulphite in the manner employed for cassia oil; and with increased reason—had they not ignored it—they would have held as more convenient the use of potassium bisulphite, because it does away with the inconvenience of the citronellal compound separating partly in the oily and partly in the aqueous layers, as both the citral and the citronellal form with a saturated solution of it, a compound completely soluble in water, thus rendering the reading—otherwise difficult and uncertain—quite easy and accurate. And it is curious to find that the practice of disregarding the important difference existing between Schimmel's process of estimation of aldehydes in cassia oil and that of Soldaini and Berté, in which—let it once more be repeated—potassium bisulphite is used, should be obstinately persisted in.

Since I am on the subject, with the hope of not having to return to it, I might as well draw attention to the essential points that differ from the Schimmel process:

1st. The use of a different reagent, which is of the greatest importance for the success of the determination.

2nd. The apparatus employed and the very minute details of execution—these, too, of the greatest importance for the accuracy of the estimation.

Finally, I venture to hope that the promoters of the vigorous protest may lay open the analytical process (which might be termed of the new school) by means of which the percentage of aldehydes in lemon oil is found not to exceed 31 to 32 per cent. or 4 per cent., discarding right now the so-called "American process," long published by Walther (*Pharm. Zeitung*, 1899), lately proposed by some American chemists. This process consists in treating lemon oil in alcoholic solution with hydroxylamine hydrochloride and sodium bicarbonate, and then titrating back the excess of hydroxylamine. Messrs. Schimmel & Co. have found that this process does not give true results, and I myself can positively confirm its unfitness, having had occasion of repeatedly putting it to the test.

With regard to the statements of "secret methods of analysis based upon data given by irresponsible, &c., &c.," made by "The Essentials Company" on page 341 of your journal, I must declare—in order to prevent any possible *quid pro quo*—that it can in no way concern my house of analysis in Messina.

Yours faithfully,

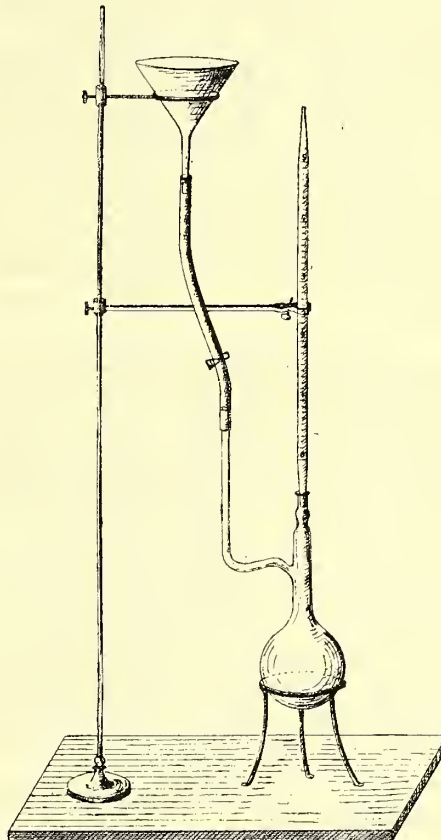
Messina, October 22.

DR. BERTÉ.

QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION OF ALDEHYDES IN OIL OF LEMON.

Potassium bisulphite should be used instead of sodium bisulphite, and in order to obtain comparable results the process should be carried out always in constant conditions. By means of a pipette or a cylindrical tube divided into fortieths of a cubic centimetre, 5 c.c. of oil is exactly measured at a determined temperature and transferred into a fractional-distillation flask of

about 100-c.c. capacity. This flask is carefully ground at its neck, so that it may closely fit the pipette-shaped tube when turned upside down in it, and bears a lateral tube bent upwards, to which is connected a piece of rubber tube, closed up by a pair of pincers. The pipette tube is then accurately cleaned, dried, and fitted (upside down) into the neck of the flask, wherein 25 c.c. of a saturated solution of potassium bisulphite, with slight excess of sulphurous gas, has previously been introduced. The mixture is shaken up to emulsify, heated for ten minutes in a water-bath, agitating frequently and almost continually, and taking care that it does not get so hot that the bottom of the flask cannot be rested on the hand. After cooling by repeated shaking, it is again heated in the same way for five minutes, shaking well to



emulsify, and allowing to completely cool. Then the lateral tube of the flask is connected up to a funnel resting on a support, from which water can be run at will into the flask by means of the pair of pincers fitting the rubber tube. A little water is let in, and more added at repeated intervals, keeping on shaking, until the floating layer of oil comes up to the beginning of the neck of the flask, wherein the operator strives to gather, by means of little knocks, the little drops that may eventually adhere to the sides of the flask. Having thus, as thoroughly as possible, brought the floating oil between the beginning of the neck of the flask and its lateral tube, water is all at once run in in such a way as to raise the lower limit of the oily layer beyond the zero-mark of the pipette's scale.

With the help of the little knocks aforementioned, and by causing little bulbs of air to get in through the lateral tube, the little drops of oil that have eventually remained behind adherent to the sides of the flask are dragged along up to the surface, and the whole of the oil is gathered into the graduated portion of the pipette, where its volume is read off, after having allowed it to become perfectly transparent. The number of division-marks wanting to make up 5 c.c. divided by 2 will give the volume percentage of the aldehydes fixed by the potassium acid bisulphite, which can afterwards be converted into percentage by weight.

I might incidentally draw attention to the fact that when a certain quantity of turpentine is present the aqueous liquid remains more or less milky even twelve hours after. When both oil of orange and turpentine are present in lemon oil, a flocculent orange-yellow precipitate is formed with the use of potassium bisulphite, separating from the surface of terpene, at first bulky and afterwards less so. The more or less abundant precipitate

according to the number of division-marks it takes up in the pipette's scale, appears to pretty roughly indicate the percentage of oil of orange present. Such a precipitate is not formed in a markedly visible way unless at least 2 per cent. of the orange oil is present, and may be more or less coloured, this probably depending on the colour of orange oil used.

Who is to Benefit?

SIR,—Save, oh! save us from patent-medicine stamps at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 1d. We should at once be flooded with 6d., or even 3d., boxes of "Quackem's" pills, costing us, perhaps, 5s. 6d. and 2s. 9d. per dozen, which would ruin the small but profitable penny trade. *Re* the "known, admitted, &c." concession, or rather interpretation, it is like Captain Bunsby's metaphors—its beauty will lie in its application. I can now obtain Beecham's pills in pennyworths at half-a-dozen shops within a radius of half a mile, and I am practically certain that the vendors have no P.-M. licence, and when December 31 comes the I.R. authorities will be active, at first, no doubt, especially. But whom will they try to trap? Why, the chemist. The general shopkeeper, with his cards of ailment-named pills, will be unnoticed. If the authorities were to look after this additional source of revenue thoroughly, surely it ought to benefit us. It would be strange indeed if an official recognition of the status of the examined and qualified chemist is allowed to redound to his disadvantage. Yours, &c.,

Norwich.

C. H. C. FITT.

The Spurious "Thompson."

SIR,—For the benefit of your readers we give you the following facts respecting the man who represents himself to be Mr. Thompson, of Liverpool. He called upon us last Tuesday (October 20), informing us that he was Mr. Thompson, of John Thompson (Limited), wholesale chemists and druggists, of Liverpool, and had motored down to London. He asked us to quote him for our speciality "Vegetine," for which he ultimately placed an order with us. He returned later in the afternoon, informing us that he had been robbed of his watch and chain and sovereign-purse whilst at King's Cross watching the King going North, and thus obtained from us sufficient money to pay his fare to a northern suburb, where he was visiting for the night. Our suspicion being roused, we wrote Messrs. John Thompson (Limited), who informed us that the individual had no connection whatever with their firm. His description is as follows: Middle height, light moustache, bronzed face, wears pince-nez, and walks with a pronounced stoop. He was dressed in motor clothing, cap, &c.

Yours faithfully,

THE DAVID MACQUEEN COMPANY.

12 Paternoster Row, E.C., October 23.

The Vitality of Seeds.

A correspondent states that on taking down the old parish church of St. Mathew's, Wolsingham, co. Durham, in 1848, for the erection of the present structure, the church was extended one arch, about twenty feet, to the eastward, and the soil excavated for the foundations was spread over part of the churchyard. In the succeeding summer, on the ground where the soil was spread, a plentiful crop of black henbane sprang up, a plant which does not occur in that locality.

SIR,—The above cutting out of a London paper reminds me of an almost similar case. Our river Cam is dredged out by a steam dredger which had not been used in my recollection for forty years, and the soil spread out on a common by the side of the river. In the following spring a large crop of *Hyoscyamus niger* made its appearance. I may add that it does not grow in this locality either.

Yours truly,

Cambridge, October 27.

ARTHUR DECK.

History.

Mr. H. O. Huskisson, senior in the firm of Messrs. H. O. Huskisson & Co., Swinton Street, Gray's Inn Road, writes on the fiscal question to Mr. Thomas Tyrer as follows: "My distinguished relative, Mr. William Huskisson, was, I believe, the first free trader, with reciprocity. Like Mr. Chamberlain he was Colonial Secretary in the Cabinet of 1828, the Duke of Wellington being Prime Minister. His doctrines alarmed his colleagues, and led to his resignation and eventually the dissolution of the Administration."

C.O.D.

SIR,—May I ask you to lend the aid of your valuable paper to the advocacy of the "cash-on-delivery" postal system which is now on the *tapis*? A deputation organised by the "Advertisers' Protection Society" waited on the Postmaster-General recently and learnt that the Post Office are quite ready to grant this reform as soon as they are satisfied that there is a public demand for it. This makes it obvious that everyone who desires to see the system instituted must make their voices heard in its favour. The advantages which would accrue to the whole community by bringing producer and customer closer together must be patent to any thinking person, and the fact that Great Britain alone of all the leading countries in the world is without these facilities, is a reproach which should be speedily wiped away.

Yours truly,

Great Saffron Hill, October 24.

W. B. WARREN.

Camwal Waters.

SIR,—Having always looked upon Camwal as the embodiment of the principle of co-operation and loyalty amongst chemists, and believing that principle might well be more widely applied, I feel bound to call attention to the fact that it is in danger of being disregarded by the directors of Camwal. Camwal's advertisement in your 1903 DIARY (page vi. of end papers) underlines the statement that their waters are not supplied to any retailer who competes with chemists, and then points out that it is not to the chemist's interest to sell the same waters as the neighbouring grocer. For some years Camwal syphons have been sold by two grocers in a neighbouring village. Though my sales suffered slightly in consequence I raised no objection, until I learnt recently that one of them had cut the price against the other. Then I wrote to London complaining that these outsiders were being supplied, and to Harrogate asking whether any reduction of price would be made if I supplied one of these grocers. Harrogate offered, if I gave permission, to supply goods direct and allow 5 per cent. on the business. London declined to interfere, since the waters were supplied through chemists' accounts; and, finally, after further correspondence and consideration of the matter by the directors, suggested that I should supply one of the grocers, and that we should fix a minimum price of 3s. 9d. per dozen (my price is 4s.). To my complaint that "in sending these syphons you are doing what you undertake not to do and subjecting me to an inconvenience against which you promise protection" I have received no reply. I would ask your readers who desire that Camwal should keep to the letter and spirit of their declared policy to press for a final and satisfactory settlement of this matter of supplying outsiders through chemists' accounts.

Yours truly,

Helmsley, October 27.

J. E. ALLENBY.

Subjoined is a copy of Camwal's letter to Mr. Allenby, dated October 20:

DEAR SIR,—I duly placed your letter respecting the supply of Messrs. — and — before my directors, and I am instructed to inform you that both these men were supplied by chemists—shareholders—before we had any power to prevent or regulate the trade, and, under these circumstances, and considering that they created the trade for Camwal waters in —, the directors would suggest that a minimum retail price of 3s. 9d. per dozen be fixed, and also that you supply Mr. — at the same price as he has been supplied by the chemist who has now retired from business, and consequently given up the supply.

I would point out to you that if these men were not supplied with Camwal waters they might compete with possibly a lower-priced article, which would enable them to considerably cut the prices.

I am, &c.,

H. T. BUTLER, Secretary.

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1903, before formulating Queries.

186/45. *T. D.*—Your assistant appears to be under the impression that a month's trial is the custom of the drug-trade as in domestic service. We do not know of any case that supports that view.

185/51. *Doubtful*.—The handbills may be used by any of our subscribers.

182/71. *A. H. W.*—In all that we say regarding the new interpretation of the Medicine-stamp Acts, we do not think it necessary to take into consideration that there are dishonest people in the world, who will cheat the Revenue if they can. The Revenue authorities will look after them.

185/21. *Nomen*.—There is no legal objection to you calling your pharmacy by the name of a locality or public building near which it is situated, provided no one else does so. If you are to adopt the name of the mayoral residence, it would be courteous to inform the Mayor of the fact.

187/16. *Foster*.—So long as the business of a deceased chemist is carried on in trust it may be continued in the charge of a qualified assistant.

186/59. *Hopeful*.—It is within our knowledge that your statement in respect to two of the specialities is wrong, and the publication of your letter would constitute a libel.

186/61. *Ossett*.—Each of the labels (not referring to organs) will render the preparation liable to duty on December 31. If they are known, admitted, and approved remedies, and the formulæ for them are printed in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, a statement to that effect on the labels will exempt them from stamp-duty when sold by you or any other registered chemist.

153/9. *Alton*.—(1) A powder containing $\frac{1}{14}$ gr. of morphine must be labelled "Poison," unless it is contained in a medicine dispensed. (2) There is no new Act of Parliament bearing upon this point that we know of, but you may use the ordinary slip-label supplied by the printers. You do not require to state on the label the nature of the poison that the preparation contains.

184/70. *W. R.*—We do not think you can disclaim responsibility. An order for goods given and received is a contract, which neither party can get out of without the consent of the other, and no matter whether the labels which you ordered are a stock pattern or not, you are bound to take them if according to order, or meet the charges incurred by the printer in producing them. You should come to an amicable arrangement if you can.

185/5. *X.*—Your children's cough-mixture label is quite right.

186/67. *Limited*.—Private limited companies of chemists (such as yours) do not enjoy the privileges of Exemption 3 of the Medicine-stamp Acts. So far such companies and the larger companies have done nothing publicly in the matter; but counsel's opinion has been taken, and this has corroborated the official view that they cannot benefit by the exemption without an amendment of the Acts. We daresay the larger companies will not consider the restricted use of ailment-names as a calamity, and already we know of several who have made up their minds to stamp such articles, this enabling them to make 6d. packets the minimum. Something else may transpire later.

192/23. *S. G. S.*—There is no reason why the proceedings in the Wolverhampton case should not be repeated elsewhere, but they cannot be when packages are labelled "Carbonate of Magnesia." That would not be an offence under the Merchandise-marks Acts, but it might be under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts if the purchaser proved that he asked for "magnesia," and his attention was not called to the fact that he was supplied with the carbonate.

191/30. *Careo* (Cardiff).—You will have observed from our issue of October 24 that "aperient pills" is not regarded by the Board of Inland Revenue as a dutiable title, and although it is not long since they said "laxative granules" is a liable title, they have since declared that "laxative tablets" is not liable. Our opinion is that aperient, laxative, diaphoretic, diuretic, and some others are not liable, because they refer to a property of the medicine without relation to any ailment of the human body; whereas antacid, antibilious, anthelmintic, and expectorant are examples of words which not only describe the properties of the medicine but

the disordered condition of the human body which they are designed to remove.

187/72. *R. G. B.*—See THE 1903 CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY and the forthcoming one for particulars regarding the Medicine-stamp Acts and their administration.

189/67. *S. V. O'C.*—Your card is not, in our opinion, an infringement of Section 3 of the Dentists Act.

160/90. *Sub.*—If you supply your customers with no printed matter describing the carnation-powder as a medicine it may be sold by anybody. You do not apparently understand the terms of the entire drugs exemption. They are that such drugs may be sold unstamped, although coming within the general charge of duty if sold by apothecaries, surgeons, and chemists or druggists, and by other persons who hold the licence to sell stamped medicines. The wrapper for carnation-powder that you now propose to use has nothing to do with the entire drugs exemption. It is simply outside the Act because it is not held out or recommended as a medicine for the cure or relief of a human ailment.

188/16. *A. P.* asks if, on the principle that "digestive-mixture" is not liable to stamp-duty, the following wording will not be:

ASTRINGENT-MIXTURE.—Dose: An adult may take from one to two tablespoonfuls every three or four hours. Looseness of the bowels, however slight, should on no account be neglected. It is by far the most usual forerunner of the disease cholera, as well as the most important, because, in its various degrees, it constitutes that stage in which life may be most easily saved.

This is liable because the mixture is held out for ailments—viz., looseness of the bowels and cholera. Of course registered chemists may use such a label by disclosing the composition of the mixture, or preparing it by a *C. & D. Diary* formula or one in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," and saying so on the label.

24/90. *J. C. S.*—None of your labels is liable, as they do not hold out or recommend the preparations for human ailments. We only return marked labels by post when a stamped and addressed envelope is sent with them.

190/27. *Thistle*.—None of the labels will be liable on December 31 if you say on them (or by a separate slip) "prepared according to the *C. & D. DIARY*." You say on the embrocation-label "other valuable ingredients," and this suggests that the disclosure is incomplete. You know (we do not) whether you mention the principal ingredients. If you do you may risk the label, but for the benefit of others we say that such expressions as "other valuable ingredients" almost court conflict with Somerset House.

191/36. *Hants*.—See reply 186/67. Whether a limited company is a one-man affair or a big public body is all one for Medicine-stamp Act purposes. If the chief shareholder in a one-man chemist company wishes to enjoy the privileges of Exemption 3, his simplest plan is to take the company into liquidation, and buy back the business. You suggest that John Jones, chemist and druggist, who really is in business as John Jones (Limited), may sell what he likes in his own name. John Jones will find the difficulty whenever he begins to try on the premises where John Jones (Limited) are. For example, if he insists on selling unstamped known, admitted, and approved remedies there, a revenue officer may buy one from him, and a box of Beecham's pills, with the result that he will be sued for selling stamped medicines without a licence. It is John Jones (Limited) who have the licence, not the man Jones.

189/5. *Spiro*.—The only way to be restored to the register of chemists and druggists is to pay the Registrar the guinea required by law.

187/35. *N. J.* (Bristol).—We cannot undertake to arbitrate in business disputes between wholesaler and retailer, especially when so serious an allegation as the illegal use of methylated spirit is made. If your statement is true, the wholesaler ought to be only too glad to relieve you of the article, and we may remind you that if it does contain methylated spirit you render yourself liable to a fine of 100% and confiscation of the article by having it on your premises.

188/73. *Apprentice*.—It is not legally necessary to have apprenticeship-indentures signed at the end of the period; but it is usual for a good master to give a good apprentice some acknowledgment in writing of his faithful service.

187/74. *Chemists*.—What do you mean by a "patent medicine"? If one the subject of letters patent you cannot make the article as long as the patent-rights are in force. When the rights expire the article may be made by anybody, just as an imitation of anything may be made, but it must not be put on the market in a manner which infringes rights that the originator has acquired otherwise than by patent. For example, anybody may make a petroleum jelly resembling vaseline, but cannot call it "vaseline," as the rights in that word are distinct from the patent, and have been acquired by the Chesebrough Company.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

186/66. *Borax*.—There is no better solvent for cream of tartar than water. An equivalent for 20 gr. per oz. would be $2\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of cream of tartar and $17\frac{1}{2}$ Rochelle salts. An oz. of water will not dissolve more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of the former.

194/11. *Up to Date*.—Comment, even indirect, upon a criminal charge which is *sub judice* is injudicious, but we shall keep your letter before us.

189/66. *An Unfortunate L.P.S.I.* has not observed the rules which head this section, and takes away the only substantiation he gives for a personal indictment by withholding his name.

193/7. *H. C. R.*—A strong solution of caustic potash in spirit is much used for dehorning young cattle.

190/42. *H. A. K.*—Treatment of the ferruginous well-water with a mixture of slacked lime one part and dried carbonate of soda two parts will remove the iron. An ounce of it will suffice for about 50 gals. of the water.

193/55. *H. B.*—(1) The ranks of female dispensers who have the Apothecaries' Hall certificate are overcrowded at present. Those who have the Minor qualification have a better chance of the best appointments that are going. (2) A mixture of methylated spirit four parts and hydrogen-peroxide solution one part is good for cleaning old pictures. It must be carefully applied.

185/38. *J. W. B.*—You will find a formula for extract of malt with cod-liver oil in the 1903 DIARY on page 293.

183/40. *G. P.*—Somnoform is stocked by W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W. We have give particulars of its composition in the *C. & D.*, May 9, page 768, and July 5, 1902, page 26.

185/44. *Rex*.—Obesity.—The article on obesity appeared in the *C. & D.*, April 18, page 625; but if you require to use fucus vesiculosus you had better put up the liquid extract *per se*. The dose should be 1 dr. to 2 dr., in a little water, before meals.

192/64. *Chemists*.—Charge for Dispensing-lessons.—This might be worked out at 2s. 6d. to 5s. an hour. Several circumstances would have to be considered before we could state a definite charge for a six-months' course.

194/48. *C. B. V.*—Aluminium vessels can be used for all the usual decoctions, but are not superior to enamelled vessels.

181/18. *M. P.*—You will find the baking-powder recipes in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" meet your requirements.

175/28. *Sacch. Facis*.—It is better to wash prints before they are put into a combined toning and fixing bath, but not imperative, as the free silver salts are taken up by the hypo. before the gold begins to tone.

174/63. *S.*—The dose of kamala for pigs is $\frac{1}{2}$ i. to $\frac{3}{4}$ i., given in a small quantity of sloppy food after a twenty hours' fast. An aperient is not, as a rule, needed.

Information Wanted.

193/58. Name of maker of a small powder-balance called the "Daisy."

194/48. Maker of bottles branded on bottom with a trident and number.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Monday, November 2.

Society of Chemical Industry (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. The following papers are down for discussion: "On the Application of the α Rays to the Examination of 'Safety Fuses,'" by Mr. C. Napier Hake, Chief Inspector of Explosives, Melbourne, Australia; "Scarlet Phosphorus—a New Chemically Active Variety of Red Phosphorus—and its use in the Manufacture of Matches," by Drs. Marquart and Schulz; "New Compound of Phosphorus for the Production of Matches," by Mr. F. Bale; "Densities of Concentrated Nitric Acid at different Temperatures," by Professor V. H. Veley, F.R.S., and Mr. J. J. Manley; "On a Comparison of Different Types of Calorimeters," by Messrs. J. S. S. Brame and Wallace A. Cowan.

Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 5 P.M. General monthly meeting.

Tuesday, November 3.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Trade Association, at 9 P.M. Annual meeting.

Hull Chemists' Trade Association, Percy's York Hotel, at 9 P.M. Monthly meeting.

Blackpool and Fylde Chemists' Association, Palatine Hotel, Blackpool, at 9 P.M. Discussion on the new interpretation of the Medicine Stamp Act.

Wednesday, November 4.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 11 A.M. Council-meeting.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M. Council-meeting.

Stockport Chemists' Association, Albert Hall, at 9 P.M. Monthly meeting.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association, Star and Garter Hotel, at 8.45 P.M. Mr. J. R. Young will give an address on "Panaceas."

London Chemists' Association (South London Branch), The Horns, Kennington, at 3.30 P.M. Annual report, and papers by Mr. F. Truman and Mr. R. Willson.

Thursday, November 5.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M.

Among the papers to be communicated are the following: "Conductivity of Substances dissolved in certain Liquefied Gases" (preliminary notice), by Messrs. B. D. Steele and D. McIntosh; "The Reduction of Hydrazoic Acid," by Mr. W. T. Cooke; "The Behaviour of Metallic Oxides towards Fused Boric Anhydrides," by Messrs. C. H. Burgess and A. Holt, jun.; "Some Reactions of Vanadium Tetrachloride," by Mr. B. D. Steele; "Studies on Comparative Cryoscopy: Part I, the Fatty Acids and their Derivatives in Phenol-solution," by Mr. P. W. Robertson.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 P.M. Mr. R. A. Robinson, jun., on "The Major."

Friday, November 6.

School of Pharmacy Students' Association, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Mr. Harold Wilson will give an address.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—Evening meeting on November 10. Papers will be read on "Kino" by Mr. Edmund White, and on "The Assay of Crude Cocaine" by Mr. Wm. Garsed.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.—Annual dinner at the Clarendon Hotel on November 11. Tickets (5s. each) may be had from Mr. S. V. Booth, 25 Grosvenor Road, or Mr. Bishop, The Broadway Pharmacy, Tunbridge Wells.